

COPIES of all CORRESPONDENCE that has passed since the 1st day of January 1876, relating to the NATIONAL SCHOOLS of *Drumgarley, Rakkeragh, and Tattenslave*, in the County *Monaghan*, between the Managers of said Schools, the District Inspector Colonel *Lloyd* (Agent to Lord *Rosemore*), and the Commissioners of National Education; and, between the Rev. *L. J. O'Neill*, the Right Rev. *Dr. Donnelly* (Roman Catholic Bishop of *Clogher*), and any other Persons, and the Commissioners of National Education, during the same Period, in any way relating to the said CORRESPONDENCE, or to any of the said SCHOOLS.

— No. 1. —

(L. 1,246—76.)

Colonel *Lloyd* to the Commissioners of National Education.

Roll Nos. 6,821 and 10,282.—*Cormeen and Drumacrutin National Schools.*

Sir,

Estate Office, *Monaghan*, 15 January 1876.

In reply to your letter of 2nd ultimo, calling my attention to the low average attendance at the above schools, I beg to state that on inquiry I find the cause of the falling away is not for want of comfortable accommodation or competent teachers, but on account of undue interference on the part of the Roman Catholic clergy in the neighbourhood.

Some years ago there were over 20 Roman Catholic children attending at the *Drumacrutin* school, which was, on several occasions, visited by their clergy, and after each visit children were withdrawn.

On one occasion I am informed that a child was actually turned back on its way to school. The parents of the children have been called on and requested not to send their children to the schools but directed to send them to other schools, and especially those in connection with the convent here.

So that if the clergy continue to use the influence of their position, and in other ways coerce the attendance of children at schools connected with themselves, it is making the system denominational, contrary to the rules of the Board.

I herewith forward you a copy of the local paper where the subject has been referred to, and I think it is a matter which the Commissioners should at once inquire into, for I submit that it is contrary to the fundamental principle of the national system to allow such interference on the part of those who claim to be the patrons or managers of schools under the Board.

Waiting your reply—

I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd.*

(The foregoing was a reply to the following letter issued from this office.)

Roll Nos. 6,821 and 10,282.—*Cormeen and Drumacrutin National Schools.*—District 18.

Sir,

Education Office, 2 December 1875.

As the average attendance for the quarter ended 30th September last was below the minimum required by the Commissioners' rules for the continuance of aid to these schools, we are directed to give you notice that, should the average attendance for the current quarter be also insufficient, the Commissioners will take into consideration the propriety of withdrawing aid at the end of three months from this date.

The minimum average attendance required for a school is 30.

We are, &c.,  
(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*W. H. Newell,*  
Secretaries.

Colonel *Jesse Lloyd*, *Monaghan.*

## Enclosure in No. 1.

COPY from "Northern Standard" Newspaper of 31st December 1875.

## MEMORIAL to Colonel Lloyd.

WE, the Catholic tenants on Lord Rossmore's property, respectfully entreat your Honor not to persist in asking us to withdraw our children from the schools they are attending at present. We have contributed to build those schools, in order that our children might receive an education in accordance with our religious principles. We regard it as a most important duty to have our children brought up not only to fit them for this world, but to prepare them for the next. We are of opinion that it is only in Catholic schools, and under Catholic teachers, that this can be done properly, and for that reason have never availed ourselves of the great advantage offered by the model school.

We have every confidence that you will not insist upon our doing a thing at variance with the principles of our faith, and that you will not inflict punishment upon us for acting up to the teaching of our religion.

Yours, &c.,  
(signed) *William Duffy.* *John Fanning.*  
*Pat. Scraghan.* *John O'Neill.*  
*Patrick Fanning.* *John Duffy.*  
*Patrick Murphy.* *Francis Cassidy.*

P. S.—The above-named called at the office, but did not succeed in seeing your Honor, and hence we send it (the Memorial) through the post.

## REPLY.

To Messrs. *William Duffy, Pat. Scraghan, Patrick Fanning, Patrick Murphy, John Fanning, John O'Neill, John Duffy, Francis Cassidy.*

Rossmore Estate Office, Monaghan,  
24 December 1875.

IN reply to your Memorial, I beg to say that I cannot, on the part of Lord Rossmore, accede to the request contained in it; to do so, would be to so far establish a system of denominational education on the estate, which, I need not inform you, is contrary to his Lordship's convictions, and is not recognised by the law of the land in such schools.

I would remind you that the late Lord Rossmore, at considerable expense, and at the urgent solicitation of his tenantry, erected commodious and comfortable school-houses on his property; he also secured the services of efficient masters in the schools referred to in your memorial, men whose efficiency has been vouched for by the district inspector, who is himself a Roman Catholic; and I therefore must insist that the advantages thus provided be embraced by the children of his tenants of all denominations in the locality. I cannot permit any organised combination to reduce the average attendance, so as to throw the entire support of these schools on the estate, and at the same time deprive them of the supervision of the Government Inspector.

I have no wish whatever to interfere with your religious faith; no person regrets more than his Lordship and myself, the want of proper religious instruction to your children, and the neglect of this duty on the part of your clergymen.

In conclusion, I would remind you that your clergy are the proper persons to impart religious teaching, and to enable them to do so, every facility in conformity with the rules of the Board, which the Commissioners of Education in Ireland consider ample, so far as I am aware, has been afforded, and I shall be only too glad to learn that this solemn duty, which I find on inquiry has been so much neglected, will in the future be properly attended to in accordance with the rules.

(signed) *Jesse Lloyd.*

— No. 2. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

Roll Nos. 6,821 and 10,282.—Cormeen and Drumacrutin National Schools.—District 18.

Sir,

Education Office, 28 January 1876.

WE are to inform you that the Commissioners of National Education, at their meeting on the 25th instant, had before them your letter of the 15th instant, stating that the falling off in the attendance at the above-named schools is caused by undue interference on the part

part of the Roman Catholic clergymen in the neighbourhood, and asking that an inquiry be instituted into the matter.

They had also before them the local newspaper forwarded by you, containing a memorial addressed to you by the Catholic tenants on Lord Rossmore's property, asking you not to persist in requiring them to withdraw their children from the schools they are at present attending; and also your reply refusing to accede to this request, and requiring them to send their children to the schools established on the estate by the late Lord Rossmore.

The Commissioners direct us to inform you that, after giving your letter, &c., the fullest consideration, they feel they cannot interfere in the case.

We are, &c.,  
(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*W. H. Newell,*  
Secretaries.

Colonel Jesse Lloyd, Monaghan.

— No. 3. —

(L. 7,084-78.)

Colonel Lloyd to Henry McPhillips and Others.

NOTICE TO QUIT.\*

TAKE NOTICE, that I do hereby require you to deliver up to me, or to my order, on behalf of William F. Burton, Robert C. Wade, and Robert H. Dolling, surviving trustees of the late Henry Robert Lord Baron Rossmore, on the 20th day of September next ensuing the date hereof, the quiet and peaceable possession of all that and those, that part of the lands of Rakeeragh, situate in the parish of Monaghan, barony of Monaghan, and county of Monaghan, and all the appurtenances thereunto belonging, which you hold from or occupy under the aforesaid landlords as tenant from year to year: And take Notice, that in case you shall refuse or neglect to deliver up to me, or to my order, the quiet and peaceable possession of the said premises on the said 20th day of September next, as hereby required, I shall proceed as directed by the statute in such case made and provided to recover the same, and all costs and expenses attending such recovery.

Witness my hand this 13th day of March in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six.

(signed) *Colonel Jesse Lloyd,* Agent,  
by power of Attorney, for

*Wm. F. Burton.*  
*Robt. C. Wade.*  
*Robt. H. Dolling.*

To Henry McPhillips, the Tenant in Possession,  
and all others occupying said Premises, and  
those whom it may concern.

— No. 4. —

(L. 10,902-76.)

Colonel Lloyd to David Pollock and Others.

NOTICE TO QUIT.

TAKE NOTICE, that I do hereby require you to deliver up to me, or to my order, on behalf of William F. Burton, Robert C. Wade, and Robert H. Dolling, surviving trustees of the late Henry Robert Lord Baron Rossmore, on the 1st day of November next ensuing the date hereof, the quiet and peaceable possession of all that and those, that part of the lands of Drumgarley, situate in the parish of Aghabog, barony of Dartrey, and county of Monaghan, and all the appurtenances thereunto belonging, which you hold from or occupy under the aforesaid landlords as tenant from year to year: And take Notice, that in case you shall refuse or neglect to deliver up to me, or to my order, the quiet and peaceable possession of the said premises on the said 1st day of November next, as hereby required, I shall proceed as directed by the statute in such case made and provided to recover the same, and all costs and expenses attending such recovery.

Witness my hand this 24th day of April in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six.

(signed) *William F. Burton.*  
*Robert C. Wade.*  
*Robert H. Dolling.*

Jesse Lloyd, by power of Attorney.

To David Pollock, the Tenant in Possession,  
and all others occupying said Premises, and  
those whom it may concern.

*Note.*—Documents, No. 3 and 4, being Notices to Quit, were served personally on the Secretaries, National Board.

## CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO THE

— No. 5. —

(L. 10,900—76.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Representatives of *McCarville* and Others.

## NOTICE TO QUIT.\*

TAKE NOTICE, that I do hereby require you to deliver up to me, or to my order, on behalf of William F. Burton, Robert C. Wade, and Robert H. Dolling, surviving trustees of the late Henry Robert Lord Baron Rossmore, on the 1st day of November next ensuing the date hereof, the quiet and peaceable possession of all that and those, that part of the lands of Tattenclave, situate in the parish of Aghabog, barony of Dartrey, and county of Mooghan, and all the appurtenances thereunto belonging, which the late Bridget *McCarville* held from or occupied under the aforesaid landlords as tenant from year to year: And take Notice, that in case you shall refuse or neglect to deliver up to me, or to my order, the quiet and peaceable possession of the said premises on the said 1st day of November next, as hereby required, I shall proceed as directed by the statute in such case made and provided to recover the same, and all costs and expenses attending such recovery.

Witness my hand this 25th day of April in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six.

(signed) *William F. Burton,*  
*Robert C. Wade,*  
*Robert H. Dolling.*

Jesse Lloyd, by power of Attorney.

To the Representative of the late Bridget *McCarville*,  
the Tenant in Possession, and all others occupying  
said Premises, and those whom it may concern.

— No. 6. —

(13,350—76.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh, Drumgarley, Tattenclave.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
2 June 1876.

Sirs,

REFERRING to the notices to quit which have been served on the Commissioners of National Education respecting schools on the estate of Lord Rossmore, I intended in courtesy to the Board, as his Lordship's agent, to have written you at the time a full explanation, but absence from home, together with pressure of business, prevented my doing so. I now beg to state that his Lordship's object in serving the notices is, not to discontinue the schools in question, but to rebuild and otherwise improve them, and to provide suitable residences for the teachers. The houses have been for a considerable time in a most disgraceful state; and Lord Rossmore is most anxious that proper accommodation should be afforded to the children of his tenantry of all denominations, in order that they may be enabled to take advantage of the benefits afforded by that admirable system, when properly carried out.

It is not his Lordship's intention to interfere with the management or the teachers of the schools, but in order that he may be in a position in future to prevent a recurrence of a scandal which has been made the subject of public criticism, in the past, he has determined upon assuming the patronage of the schools on his own property.

So far as Lord Rossmore is concerned, every facility will be afforded and all necessary arrangements made to prevent the business of the present schools being discontinued for even a single day, and I trust that the Commissioners in the interest of education will give his Lordship every assistance in carrying out the object he has in view.

The Secretaries,  
National Education, Marlborough-street,  
Dublin.

I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd.*

— No. 7. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

7,063. Rakeeragh; 1,115. Drumgarley; and 5,829. Tattenclave National Schools.—  
District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
29 June 1876.

Sir,  
THE Commissioners of National Education having had before them your letter of the 2nd instant, with reference to the notices to quit served in regard to the above-named schools,

*Note.*—Document No. 5, being Notice to Quit, was served personally on the Secretaries, National Board.

schools, direct us to inform you, that as these national schools are non-vested, they have no property in them.

We are, &c.,  
(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*William H. Newell,*  
Secretaries.

Col. Jesse Lloyd, Monaghan.

— No. 8. —

(27,250—76.)

Rev. B. Duffg to the Commissioners of National Education.

Drumgarley and Tattenclave National Schools, Parish of Aughabog, County of Monaghan.

Latnamard, Newbliss, 4 December 1876.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

As manager of the above schools, I respectfully ask to be furnished with copies of all official documents in the hands of the Commissioners touching their first establishment as *National Schools*. I have been served with "Notices to Quit" these school premises by Colonel Lloyd, Lord Rossmore's agent; and I am preparing to resist as far as I legally can.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *B. Duffg* r. r.

— No. 9. —

(27,252—76.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh National School, Parish and County of Monaghan.

Ballihay, 4 December 1876.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Though the above school has been under control of the Catholic clergy for 50 years, and 40 of these in connection with the National Board, Colonel Lloyd, land agent to Lord Rossmore, has taken legal steps to eject us from the school premises. As the manager, I mean to resist him; and with a view to legal proceedings, I ask to be furnished with copies of all official documents connected with the first establishment of the school as a National school.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *Lawrence J. O'Neill.*

To the  
Commissioners of National Education, Ireland.

— No. 10. —

(L. 27,252—76.)

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. L. J. O'Neill.

7,963. Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
16 December 1876.

Reverend Sir,

As requested in your letter of the 4th inst., we herewith enclose copies of the official documents connected with the original establishment of the above-named school under the Commissioners, and also copies of the documents referring to the application for aid to it under the present roll number, the original school having been struck off the roll in the year 1857.

We are, &c.,  
(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*Wm. H. Newell,*  
Secretaries.

Rev. L. J. O'Neill, Parish Priest,  
Ballihay.

QUESTIONS to be answered by Applicants for aid towards the Fitting-up of Schools; the paying of Teachers, and the obtaining School Requisites.

1. What is the name of the school, and when was it established?

2. In what townland, parish, and county is it situated?

3. What is the name of the nearest post-town?

4. State particularly whether the school is in connection with, or derives aid from any other society, and if so, the name of the society, the amount of the aid received, and the nature of the connexion?

5. Upon what days of the week, and during how many and what hours of each day, is the school kept or intended to be kept open?

6. How many scholars are there usually in attendance?

7. What are the dimensions of the school-room and the number of its windows; from what funds was it erected, and what is the number of scholars it can accommodate?

8. What are the sources from whence the annual income of the school is derived, and what is the amount of such income; do the scholars pay anything, and what?

9. State the names of the present master and mistress, with the amount of their respective salaries, and whether they have been educated in any, and what model school or schools, and what testimonials they can produce of fitness for their office?

10. Is the school under the direction of an individual or individuals, or a committee? State the name and address of the individual or individuals; if a committee, state the names and address of the treasurer, secretary, or correspondent?

11. State the names of all books used in the school, specifying the editions; also by whom, or from whence, and at what time or times they have been supplied?

12. In what state of repair is the school-house?

13. What number of desks and seats are there in the school-room, and how many children do they accommodate?

14. What number of schools are there in the parish or neighbourhood; at what distance from the school-house for which aid is sought; and under whose patronage or direction?

15. Are there any persons resident in Dublin acquainted with the circumstances of this school; if so, state their names and address?

Rakecreegh school-house, established in 1838.

Situate in the townland of Rakecreegh, parish and county of Monaghan.

Monaghan.

Not in connexion with, nor does it derive aid from, any society.

Open six days in the week in summer, from nine o'clock in the forenoon to five o'clock in the afternoon; and in winter from 10 in the forenoon to three o'clock in the afternoon.

In summer, males 40; females 50. In winter, males 60; females 70.

Dimensions, 28 by 16 feet, and nine feet high; apertures for three windows, erected by subscriptions; can accommodate 150 scholars.

Income derived from the parents of scholars, such as are able to pay at the rate of one penny per week for each scholar. The children of cottiers and others unable to pay, are taught gratis. Gross amount of income, about 10 l. per annum.

Master, James Fitzpatrick, salary about 10 l. per annum; not educated in any model school; no testimonials, but was the fittest that could be procured under the circumstances.

Under the direction of the Very Rev. Patrick Bellew, P. R.

Manson's Primer and Spelling-book, Fanning's Universal Spelling-book, Belfast Stereotype Edition, Protestant Testaments for the use of the Protestant children, Murray's Grammar and Pronouncing Dictionary, Reilly and Butler's Roman Catholic Catechisms, Fleury's Historical Catechism, and a Douai Testament, supplied from one to two years since, partly by the parish priest, a Mrs. Higgins, and the scholars' parents.

The house is substantially built of stone and lime mortar, and covered in with a thatched roof, but in an unfinished state.

The school-room is not provided with either desks or seats, save a few poles extending from end to end, and resting on stones.

There are three other schools in the parish under the patronage of the Rev. Mr. Bellew, P. R.; distance from two to three miles; and one under the patronage of the London H. Society.

None.

N.B.—If repairs or additional furniture be indispensably required, send up estimates separately in detail for each.

You are requested to take a copy of the foregoing regulations for your future guidance.

Specify particularly the Nature and Extent of the Aid required on behalf of which this Application is made.

To amount of repairs and additional furniture as per estimate annexed, 11 £ 16 s. With such aid for the paying of school-master, and providing school requisites, as the Commissioners may consider it proper to allow.

*N.B.*—A general supply of books are very requisite.

We, the undersigned, agree to the conditions embodied in the foregoing regulations, and believe the within Queries are fully and truly answered. Dated this 4th September 1852.

## PROTESTANTS.

*Edward Gillender*, Tumbler, farmer.  
*Anne Gillender*, of Tumbler.  
*Thomas Curwell*, Tanderageehane.  
*John Berry*, farmer, Tanderagee.  
*Thomas Sowerel*, farmer, Romany.  
*William Sowerell*, farmer.  
*George M'Berney*, farmer.  
*George Harkness Sullyleer*.  
*James Duffy*, Tanderagee, farmer.  
*Thomas Crawford Tend*, farmer.  
*John Cauders*, Leagh, farmer.  
*James M'Bevney*, Leagh.  
*James Chambers*, Leagh.

## ROMAN CATHOLICS.

*Patrick Belles*, P. P.  
*Henry Davison*, of Carrickanorand, farmer.  
*Hugh M. Phillips*, of Rakeeragh, farmer.  
*John M'Cardle*, of Carrickanorand, farmer.  
*Owen Phillips*, Romany, farmer.  
*Pat. O'Neill*, Romany, farmer.  
*Patrick King*, Tanderagee, farmer.  
*Joe. McCabe*, Rakeeragh, farmer.  
*Neal Duffy*, Tamaga, farmer.  
*Pat. McAree*, Tanderagee, shoe and boot maker.  
*James Mollen*, Tanderageehane, farmer.  
*Thomas Davison*, Tanderageehane, farmer.  
*Owen Duffy*, Tanderagee, farmer.

By desire of the Commissioners,

*Thomas F. Kelly*,  
 Secretary.

## Roll No. 7,963.—District No. 18.

Number of Letter requesting Aid, 568-58.	Acknowledged by Circular, 8th day of May 1858.
Date of its Receipt in Office, 18th day of January 1858.	Notified to District Inspector, 12th day of May 1858.
Blank Form of Application despatched 23rd day of January 1858.	Report Received, 31st day of May 1858.
Ditto Returned to Office, 8th day of May 1858.	Referred to Sub-committee, 8th day of June 1858.

APPLICATION to the Commissioners of National Education for Aid towards Payment of Teacher's Salary, and for Supply of Requisites for RAKEERAGH SCHOOL, County of Monaghan, in the Barony of Monaghan, in the Parish of Monaghan, and in the Townland of Rakeeragh.

Nearest post-town - - - - -	Monaghan to the north. The school is on the road from Ballinay to Monaghan.
Description and condition of house - - - - -	Stone and lime, thatched, earthen floor.
Dimensions of school-room - - - - -	35 feet by 16.
Furniture - - - - -	New and sufficient in quality.
Name of teacher - - - - -	Patrick Corrigan, age 19 years.
Average daily attendance - - - - -	20 males, 15 females; total, 35.
School hours - - - - -	From 10 to 3 o'clock.
Religious instruction - - - - -	On Saturdays from 10 to 12 o'clock.
Books used - - - - -	The Board's only. The Reading Books, 1, 2, 3 sq. l., 3rd; Board's Grammar, and Arithmetic, large and small; Sullivan's Grammar, Spelling Book, and Geography; Table Book.
Arrangement for admission of visitors - - - - -	The school is open to all visitors according to the Rules of the Board on that head.
Management - - - - -	The Rev. P. Clifford, c. c., Monaghan, is manager.

This school is now in good repair, and has a good attendance; Lathleen, National School, is the nearest to this, and is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  Irish miles distant. Cormeen National School is 2 miles distant, and Monaghan National School, 2 miles also. The attendance at Rathkeeragh therefore will not interfere with that of any other school.

Gentlemen,  
This contains a correct reply to every question required by the Board, as will appear from the Inspector's Report, should he be directed to visit this school.

6 May 1858.

(signed) P. Clifford, c. c.

District No. 18.

Application received, 8th day of May, 1858.

Notified to district Inspector, 12th day of May, 1858.

Report received, 31st day of May, 1858.

Decided upon by Board, 18th day of June, 1858.

REPORT upon Application for Aid towards Payment of Teacher's Salary, and for Supply of Books, &c., for RAKEERAGH SCHOOL, in the County of Monaghan.

Patron or Correspondent, Rev. Patrick Clifford, Rel. Den., n. c. Post Town, Monaghan.

1. When was the school established? - - -
2. Parish? - - - - -
3. In what Townland? - - - - -
4. Barony? - - - - -
5. If in a town or village give its name, and state the amount of its population.
6. If in the country, state the number of dwellings or of families within a circuit of half a mile of this school.
7. What is the name and distance of the nearest post town, and in what direction?
8. State the names of the National Schools within three miles of this Applicant School, with the average attendance at each for the last four months, and whether vested or non-vested.

Attach a Tracing, showing the position of the Schools.

9. State the names and distances of other schools for the poor within similar limits of this Applicant School.

10. State the precise distance of this school from any other Applicant Schools, whether for aid to build, or for salary and books, and if it have any connexion with any existing National or Applicant School, explain the nature of such connexion.

11. State whether the school is, or has been, in connexion with, or has derived aid from any other society; and if so, the name of the society, the amount of the aid received, and whether that connexion will be discontinued should a grant be made.

12. Are the patrons of the school, during its former connexion, aware that application has been now made on its behalf to the Commissioners of Education? If so, is it with their approbation?

13. If they are not aware, or do not approve, state the reasons.

14. If school ever before in connexion with the Board, state when such connexion ceased, and why.

About 1832.  
Monaghan.  
Rakeeragh.  
Monaghan.  
It is not in either.

Between 30 and 40.

Monaghan,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles, north.

School.	Vested or Non-vested.	If Vested, how?	Distance.	Average Attendance.
1. Cormeen - -	Non-v.	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$	24
2. Lathleen, M.	Non-v.	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$	44
3. Lathleen, F.	Non-v.	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$	51
4. Monaghan, No. 1.	Non-v.	-	$2\frac{1}{2}$	67
5. Monaghan, No. 2.	Non-v.	-	$2\frac{1}{2}$	59

A Church Education Society School, 2 miles.

No other Applicant School.

It was a National School up to 31st January, 1858.

31st January, 1858; the house unsuitable and out of repair; the teacher inattentive and inefficient.

15. State



12. State whether the school-house is attached to church, chapel, or meeting-house, or on ground connected with such, and if so, say particularly whether there is any *external* communication between school-house and such place of worship.

16. Or whether it is in connection with any religious establishment; and, if so, what is the nature of such connexion?

17. Of what materials is it built? - - -

18. Thatched or slated? - - -

19. (I.) In what state of repair? (II.) If *effaced*, in what repair?

20. What are its dimensions? - - -

21. From what funds was it erected? - - -

22. If rent is paid, what is its amount? - - -

23. Who pays it? - - -

24. To whom paid? - - -

25. Is the school-house secured by lease or otherwise for the purpose of education?

26. Are the school-rooms wholly employed for the use of the children? if not, for what other purposes are they used?

27. What is the number of rooms used as school-rooms?

28. State the length, breadth, and height of each by internal measurement.

29. Are they sufficiently ventilated and warmed?

30. State the number of windows in each, and their dimensions.

31. Do they admit of being opened, and how?

32. Are the rooms ceiled and their walls plastered?

33. How are they floored? - - -

34. Is there a suitable fire-place in each? -

35. Is any portion of the house occupied by the teacher as a residence, and if so, does any inconvenience arise therefrom?

36. If there are any other apartments, than the rooms or rooms appropriated to the school for which aid is now asked, state their uses.

37. State how many desks and forms are provided, with their dimensions, and how many children they accommodate?

38. Is there a suitable desk with seat for teacher?

39. Is there a properly shelved book-press with door and lock and key?

40. Is there a suitable black board? If so, give its dimensions.

41. Is there a clock? - - -

42. Are racks provided whereon to suspend the time-table, general lesson, commandments, &c?

43. State the Christian and surname of the present teacher or teachers, their age, and date of appointment.

44. Have they received instruction in the art of teaching in any, and what model school?

45. What testimonials did they produce of fitness for their office? and have you examined such documents?

46. Have they been at any time previously employed as teachers of a National School? If so, state the name and county of the last where so employed, the precise date of their leaving it, and their present class and division.

Not connected with any place of worship.

No connexion.

Stone and lime.

Thatched.

(I.) Tolerably good repair. (II.) None.

50 feet long, 16½ feet broad, 8 feet high.

Local subscriptions.

No rent.

I am informed by the correspondent that it is secured by lease for the purpose of education.

No other purpose.

One.

35 feet long, 13 feet broad, 7½ feet high.

Yes.

Four, each 2 feet 9 inches, by 1 foot 8 inches.

The lower sash admits of being raised.

The walls are plastered, but the room is not ceiled.

An earthen floor.

Yes.

No portion occupied by the teacher.

There is an apartment through which is the entrance to the school, but it is completely unoccupied.

Six desks with forms attached, each 8 feet long; one separate form, 30 feet long; would accommodate about 60 children.

Yes.

Yes.

Two, each 2 feet by 1 foot 8 inches.

No.

The time-table and general lesson mounted on pasteboard are already in the school.

Patrick Corrigan, 19.

None.

Produce none.

Has not previously taught in a National School.

47. Say whether you have examined the teachers, and state your opinion of them as to (I.) acquirements, (II.) character, and (III.) method of conducting school.

48. If teachers have any other occupation, state its nature and emoluments.

49. What is the *annual amount of local funds* towards payment of the teachers' salary and repairs of the school-house? How is its payment secured?

50. What are the rates of payment made by scholars, and by whom regulated?

51. Total amount per quarter of school fees.

52. Teacher's annual income from school.

53. Are any, and what, number of children admitted gratuitously, and by whose authority?

54. If any teacher die or be removed, will the patron or committee take care that such change be reported immediately to the Commissioners?

55. Is it proposed to keep a register in the school, recording the daily attendance of the children, and the average attendance in each week and each quarter?

56. Will the inscription "NATIONAL SCHOOL," be put up conspicuously on the school-house?

57. Will the general lesson be hung up in the school-room and its principles inculcated; or if not, will any other, and what, be substituted in its stead?

58. Will the Commissioners, by themselves or their officers, be allowed to visit and examine this school whenever they think fit?

59. Will the school be *bona fide* open for children of all religious denominations?

60. Will access be given to the public of all denominations to visit the school, with liberty to inspect the registry, witness the mode of teaching, and see that the regulations of the school are faithfully observed, though not to interfere with the management, or to interrupt the business of the school?

61. State the titles of all such books as are intended to be used.

62. If those published and issued by the Board, state which of them.

63. What arrangements as to the time, &c., have been made, or are proposed to be made, for the religious instruction of the children either in the school-house or elsewhere? Be careful to give the precise times for such instruction.

64. Are they such as not to interfere with or impede the secular business of the school?

65. Are they satisfactory to the parents of the children?

66. Will they be notified as required by the Board?

67. Will the rules of the Commissioners with reference to religious instruction as set forth in Part I., s. IV., be faithfully observed?

68. State anything you can ascertain respecting that portion of the population of the neighbourhood whose children are likely to attend a National School.

(I.) I examined him in the course of study prescribed for probationary teachers, and consider him fit for a appointment under the Board as probationer.

(II.) Good.

(III.) Inexperienced, but I think attentive, and method of teaching tolerably fair.

None.

No local funds for this purpose.

All, nominally, pay a penny a week, regulated by manager.

About 5s.

May be estimated at from 20 s. to 30 s. a year.

None admitted gratuitously, but many do not pay.

Yes.

Yes.

It will.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Those published by the Board.

The reading books, grammar, geography, arithmetic, table books, &c.

It is proposed that religious instruction be given in the school-room by the teacher on Saturday from 10 to 12 o'clock.

Will not interfere with.

Yes.

Yes.

(I.) Yes.

(II.) Yes.

The population consists almost exclusively of farmers and labourers, the children of all are likely to attend a National School.

69. Has a record of the pupils' daily attendance been kept? and if so, from what date?

70. How many children were present at the time of inspection?

71. How many on the books for the last six months?

72. What was the average daily attendance for the last six months?

73. Is any increase expected, and to what extent?

74. Is the school under the direction of a committee, and by whom chosen?

75. How many days in each week, and how many hours in each day, are employed in instructing the children in the ordinary branches of secular education? State particularly at what hour the school commences, and when it closes.

76. Has this application been put up by the teacher or his friends, or for his benefit exclusively?

77. Have you communicated (and if so, say whether orally or by writing) with the clergymen of the different denominations in the neighbourhood, with respect to this application, and have they made any, and what objection thereto?

78. If this school be taken into connection, what security is there that adequate local aid, in addition to what the Commissioners contribute, will be provided for its permanent support?

79. State distinctly the wants or defects, if any, noticed in this case as to—

I. Site and premises. II. House or building. III. School-room. IV. School furniture and apparatus. V. Teacher. VI. Management.

80. Have you had an interview with the patron or correspondent of the school? and if not, state why. State the religious denomination to which he belongs.

81. If the proposed manager be a layman, state his profession, business, or occupation.

82. With what other individuals in the neighbourhood have you communicated personally on the subject, and what has been the result of your interview?

83. State any other circumstances connected with this application you may consider material for the information of the Commissioners, and the grounds upon which you recommend it to be entertained.

house has been thatched and whitewashed, the furniture has been put into proper repair, indeed, it is almost completely new; a new teacher has been appointed, and it is now sought to place the school again under the National Board. I would not expect an average attendance of very much over 30; and so far as I can ascertain, these are not likely to be withdrawn from neighbouring schools. Not having yet had an opportunity of visiting the adjoining schools, or becoming acquainted thoroughly with all the circumstances of the locality, I am unable to speak so decidedly with regard to the propriety of granting the required aid as I should otherwise do. I think, however, it would be desirable to do so, the school having been put into proper repair, and a teacher, apparently attentive and fully qualified, being in charge of it.

84. If not prepared to recommend its being now accepted, state why, and mention the conditions, if any, on which, if complied with, you would recommend its being accepted.

A record has been kept for many years past, the school having been under the Board.

Males, 18; females, 17; total, 35.

Males, 70; females, 37; total, 107.

Males, 19; females, 14; total, 33.

I cannot exactly say, so much depends on the teacher; the average is not likely to exceed from 30 to 35 for the year.

No committee.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, from 10 to 3 o'clock, daily.

It has not.

The school having been a National one for many years, and so recently struck off for the causes assigned in the reply to query 14, I did not think it necessary to communicate with them.

There is not likely to be any local aid, except the school fees.

I did not observe any defects calling for special attention.

I have, he is a Roman Catholic.

• He is a Roman Catholic clergyman.

For the same causes assigned in the reply to Query 77. I did not think it necessary to communicate with any.

This school was in connection with the National Board up to the 31st January, 1858. The house and furniture were allowed to get into bad repair, and the teacher being careless and inefficient, it was struck off at the above date, since that the

house has been thatched and whitewashed, the furniture has been put into proper repair, indeed, it is almost completely new; a new teacher has been appointed, and it is now sought to place the school again under the National Board. I would not expect an average attendance of very much over 30; and so far as I can ascertain, these are not likely to be withdrawn from neighbouring schools. Not having yet had an opportunity of visiting the adjoining schools, or becoming acquainted thoroughly with all the circumstances of the locality, I am unable to speak so decidedly with regard to the propriety of granting the required aid as I should otherwise do. I think, however, it would be desirable to do so, the school having been put into proper repair, and a teacher, apparently attentive and fully qualified, being in charge of it.

85. If reported on before and rejected, state the improvements made, and the defects remedied since last application.

86. State the date of your visit - - -

Not before reported on.

24th May, 1838.

(signed) *William Kennedy*,  
District Inspector of National Schools.

*Note.*—The inspector should state whether the pupils attending at this school have been withdrawn from any of the neighbouring National Schools within three miles, and if so, what effect the establishment of the present applicant school will have on such National Schools as regards their average attendance.

In answering Queries 8 and 10, inspector is to include all schools of the kind referred to, whether in his own or contiguous districts.

In replying to Query 78, the inspector is to divide his answer into distinct paragraphs, with numerical references to the respective topics prefixed.

— No. 11. —

(L. 27,260—70.)

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. B. Duffy.

(1,118. Drumgarley; and 5,829. Tattenclare National Schools.—District 18.)

Reverend Sir,

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
16 December 1876.

As requested in your letter of the 4th inst., we herewith enclose copies of the official documents connected with the original establishment of the above-named Schools under the Commissioners.

We are, &c.,  
(signed) *James Kelly*,  
*W. H. Newell*,  
Secretaries.

Rev. B. Duffy, F.R., Newbliss.

#### DRUMGARLEY APPLICATION, 1833.

QUERIES to be answered by Applicants for aid towards the fitting up of Schools, the paying of Teachers, and the obtaining of School Requisites.

The Answers are expected to refer, not to what may be the present rules of conducting the School, but to the mode it is intended to conduct it in the event of its receiving aid from the Board.

1. What is the name of the school, and when was it established?

Drumgarley, established 20th January, 1834.

2. In what townland, parish, and county, is it situated?

Drumgarley, parish of Anghabeg, and county of Monaghan.

3. What is the name and distance of the nearest post-town, and in what direction?

Newbliss, one mile and one half, W., and Drumgarley, N.E.

4. State particularly whether the school is, or has been, in connexion with, or has derived aid from any other society; and if so, the name of the society, the amount of the aid received, the nature of the connexion, and whether that connexion is to continue.

Not in connexion, and, consequently, has received no aid from societies.

5. State whether the school-house is attached to, or erected upon church or chapel ground.

Not erected on either church or chapel ground.

Of what materials is it built? - - -

Sand and lime.

Is it thatched or slated? - - -

Thatched.

What are its dimensions? - - -

24 by 14 feet in the clear, 8 feet high in the side walls.

From

From what funds was it erected? - -

Is the whole house exclusively employed for the scholars?

If not, who else uses it, or dwells therein?

What is the number of rooms used as school-rooms, and their dimensions?

In what state of repair is the school-house?

What number of desks and seats are there in the school-rooms, and how many children do they accommodate?

N.B.—If repairs or additional furniture be indispensably necessary for the school-rooms, or rooms, separate estimates in detail for each are required.

6. What are the sources from whence the annual income of the school is derived, and what is the amount of each income; do the scholars pay anything, and what?

7. What arrangement is made respecting the imparting of religious instruction to the children? State particularly what day or days of the week are set apart for that purpose, and what hour or hours on any other day. State also whether public notification is given of this arrangement, and whether or not parents are left at liberty to withhold their children from religious instruction which they do not approve of.

8. How many days in each week are employed in instructing the children in the common branches of moral and literary education, and how many hours in each day? And state particularly at what hour school commences, and when it closes.

9. Is a register kept in the school recording the daily attendance of the children, and the average attendance of each week and each quarter?

10. How many children have been present on the average every week, for the last quarter of a year?

11. Do you expect any increase, and to what extent?

12. Are you disposed to use the books prepared and issued by the Board? If not, state the titles of those books which you purpose to use.

13. State the names of the present teacher or teachers.

Have they been educated at any model school?

What testimonials can they produce of fitness for their office?

What is the amount of salaries paid to them, and whence derived?

14. Have the clergymen of the different denominations in the parish, or in the neighbourhood of the school, been applied to in order to obtain their signatures to this application?

15. Is the school under the direction of any individual or individuals, or a committee? State the name and address of the individual or individuals; if a committee, state the name of the treasurer, secretary, or correspondent, and his post town.

Built by an individual for his own use, but in future it shall be dedicated to no other purpose than that of a school-house.

It is.

No person dwells therein.

One school-room 24 by 14 feet, and eight feet high in the side walls.

Very good repair.

No desks or forms, but common seats round the wall, arranged in an orderly manner.

By the payments made by the pupils who attend the school. The payment is rated from 1 s. 6 d. to 3 s. 4 d. per quarter, and by the present average attendance it would not exceed 12 L. per annum.

No arrangements or no particular day set apart for religious instruction, but sanctioned by the National Board; there will be regulations and public notifications given for that purpose.

Six days of the week dedicated for that purpose. Hours of attendance are from nine till three o'clock in the afternoon in summer, and from ten till three o'clock in the afternoon in winter.

There is a register kept recording the daily attendance, and the average attendance of each week and each quarter.

38 males, 18 females. Gross number, 56.

Yes, a large increase.

It is the intention of the managers of this school to use the books issued by the National Board.

Patrick McEnally.

Yes; Kildare-place Model School.

A certificate of competency from John Veevers, superintendent.

About 12 L. per annum, according to the present state of the school, derived from the payments made by the scholars.

They have. The Protestant clergyman says he would not sign, because the reading of the Authorised Version was prohibited to be read daily. The Presbyterian minister says he would incur the displeasure of his superiors, and lose his Regium Donum; but the Roman Catholic priests have signed.

Rev. Mr. Harris, Parish Priest, Newbliss.

16. What other schools are there within three miles of yours? State their names, particularly whether National Schools, and at what distance they are. State also under what patronage and direction they are.

17. What is the population of the parish?

18. Are there any persons, resident in Dublin, acquainted with the manager, or the circumstances of this school? If so, state their names and address.

19. Will a copy of the lesson contained in the Regulations, No. VI., be hung up conspicuously in the school, and the import of it carefully inculcated on the children?

20. Will access be given to the clergy of every denomination to enter the school-room as visitors, provided they take no part in the business of the school, or interrupt it?

*If furniture or repairs of the school-house be asked, the Commissioners will require to see a ground plan and elevation of the school-house, with estimate of the expense of the repairs. In all cases they will be glad to receive plans and elevations of the school-house.*

One National School, Lattinamard, two miles; patron, Rev. Mr. Harris, r.r. Three Hibernian schools, viz., Lissarley, patron, Rev. John Wright, Newbliss; Mulagrennan, Rev. W. Hare, patron; Fennagh, ditto, patronage. All these schools one and a half miles from Drumgarley school.

According to the census of 1832 it appears to be 7,439.

None.

The lesson contained in the Regulations, No. 6, shall be carefully attended to.

Every attention will be paid to clergymen of every denomination, or any other respectable person who may have the goodness to visit this school; and the Report Book laid open for them to make such remarks as to them seem fit, for the information of the Board or its inspectors.

The managers of this school would feel themselves much obliged by your Right Honourable and Honourable Board allowing a sum of money for desks and furs as soon as Commissioners, in their wisdom, would think proper to make such a useful grant to the school in question.

The Nature and Extent of the Aid required is as follows:

Specify, in detail, Repairs or Furniture, &c.

Aid required, 12*l.* salary for the Teacher of Drumgarley School.

We, the undersigned, request the above aid from the Commissioners of National Education, believing the Queries to be fully and truly answered, and engaging that the School shall be conducted according to the Regulations set forth in our Answers.

#### PROTESTANTS.

John Steward.  
Moses Steward.  
John Mitchell.  
James Graham.  
John Graham.  
James Wesley.  
James Nesbitt.  
James Williamson.  
Thomas Stew.  
William Lee.  
David Williamson.  
William Allen.  
James McCusky.  
John Hewlson.

#### ROMAN CATHOLICS.

William Harris, P. Priest.  
Peter McGinness.  
Bernd. Murray.  
Daniel Horton.  
Peter Coyle.  
Edward Connolly.  
Denis Gardin.  
James Clerklin.

By desire of the Commissioners,

Thomas F. Kelly,  
Secretary.

## Roll No. 5,829.—District No. 10.

Number and Date of Letter requesting Aid, 4,843 X.	-	-	-	20th day of July 1849.
Blank Form of Application despatched	-	-	-	24th day of July 1849.
Ditto, returned to Office	-	-	-	3rd day of August 1849.
Acknowledged by Circular	-	-	-	3rd day of August 1849.
Sent to Inspection Office	-	-	-	4th day of August 1849.
Notified to District Inspector	-	-	-	4th day of August 1849.
Report received in Application Office	-	-	-	27th day of August 1849.
Referred to Sub-Committee	-	-	-	21st day of Sept. 1849.
Decided upon by Board	-	-	-	27th day of Sept. 1849.

APPLICATION to the Commissioners of Education for aid towards Payment of Teacher's Salary, and for Supply of Books, &c., for TATTENCLAVE SCHOOL, County of Monaghan, in the Barony of Dartrey, Parish of Aughabog, Townland of Tattenclave.

Gentlemen,

1 August 1849.

THE nearest post-town to the school-house is Rockcorry (3½ miles south), but the post-town of the manager is Newbliss (5 miles south-west).

The house is a substantial one, recently built, and in good repair; it consists of one apartment, 31½ feet long by 12 feet 2 inches wide, lighted by four windows (each 3 feet 2 inches high by 2 feet 6 inches broad). It contains five desks and forms, each 8 feet long, fixed in a frame, and four movable forms, also 8 feet long, with a rest-room and desk for the teacher.

The teacher's name is John Breaky; he is 21 years of age; he did not commence teaching permanently till Monday last; since then the average attendance is 23 males, 14 females. The school hours will be from 10 till 3. Saturday will be devoted to religious instruction. There is a variety of books in use at present, but the books issued by the National Board will be used.

The school is open to visitors at all times. The school is under the management of Rev. Patrick Carolan, parish priest of Aughabog (post town, Newbliss), who will correspond with the Board.

The Secretaries, Office of Education.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) P. Carolan.

## District No. 10.

Application received 2nd day of August 1849.  
Notified to District Inspector, 4th day of August 1849.

Report received, 27th day of August 1849.  
Decided upon by Board 27th day of Sept. 1849.

REPORT upon Application for Aid towards Payment of Teacher's Salary, and for Supply of Books, &c., TATTENCLAVE SCHOOL, in the County of Monaghan; Patron or Correspondent, Rev. Patrick Carolan. Post-town, Newbliss.

1. When was the School established?	-	-	20th July 1849.
In what parish?	-	-	Aughabog.
In what townland?	-	-	Tattenclave.
In what barony?	-	-	Dartrey.
2. What is the name and distance of the nearest post town, and in what direction?			Rockcorry, 3½ miles south.
3. State the names of the national schools within three miles of this applicant school.			Lismagorway, 2½ miles; Dawson, 2½ miles; Golanmurphy, 2½ miles; Corcoran, 1½ miles.
4. State the distance of each from this applicant school.			Drumshinna, 2 miles; Latnamard, 2½ miles; Drumhill applicant, 1½ miles.
5. State the names of the other schools for the poor within three miles of this applicant school.			Nurk Church Education, 1½ miles.
6. State the distance of each from this applicant school.			Romaglogh Church Education, 2½ miles.
7. State whether the school is or has been in connection with, or derived aid from any other society, and if so, the name of the society, the amount of the aid received, and whether that connection will be discontinued should a grant be made.			Not in connection.

8. Are the patrons of the school, during its former connection, aware that application has been now made on its behalf to the Commissioners of Education? If so, is it with their approbation?

9. If they are not aware, or do not approve, state the reasons.

10. State whether the school-house is attached to or erected upon church, chapel or meeting-house ground.

Or, whether it is in connection with any religious establishment; and, if so, what is the nature of such connection?

Of what materials is it built? - - -

Is it thatched or slated? - - -

In what state of repair? - - -

What are its dimensions? - - -

From what funds was it erected? - - -

Who pays the rent of it? - - -

11. Is the school-house secured by lease, or otherwise, for the purpose of education?

12. Are the school-rooms wholly employed for the use of the children; if not, for what other purposes are they used?

13. What is the number of rooms used as school-rooms?

State the length, breadth, and height of each by internal measurement.

Are they sufficiently ventilated and warmed?

14. Is any portion of the House occupied by the teacher as a residence; and if so, does any inconvenience arise therefrom?

If there are any other apartments state their uses.

15. How many desks and seats are there in the school-room or rooms; how many children do they accommodate, and of what does the other furniture consist?

16. State the Christian and surname of the present teacher or teachers, and their age.

17. Have they received instruction in the art of teaching in any, and what, model school?

18. What testimonials can they produce of fitness for their office? and have you examined such documents?

19. Have they been at any time previously employed as teachers of a national school? If so, state the name of it.

20. State your opinion of the teachers as to literary acquirements—

As to character - - -

As to method of conducting the school -

21. Have the teachers any other occupation?

State the nature and emoluments of it.

22. What is the annual amount of local funds towards payment of the teacher's salary and repairs of the school-house?

23. Do the scholars pay anything? - -

What are the rates of payment, and by whom regulated?

24. Are any, and what number, of children admitted gratuitously, and by whose authority?

25. If any teacher die or be removed, will the patron or committee take care that such change be reported immediately to the Commissioners?

It is on neutral ground.

Not in connection.

The walls are clay.

Thatched.

Good.

34 feet long, 16 feet broad, 6½ feet high.

Local.

Teachers.

Not secured.

Yes.

One.

30 feet long, 12 feet broad, 6½ feet high.

Yes.

None.

Not any.

Five desks and nine forms; would accommodate 76 pupils. There is also a desk for the teacher, and a book-press.

John Breaky, 31 years.

No.

He showed me testimonials that he received from the parochial clergy.

No.

Fair.

Good.

Efficient.

No.

None except the school-fees.

Yes.

1 s. 1 d., 1 s. 6 d., 2 s., 5 s.; by manager.

Any too poor to pay; manager's.

Yes.



26. Is it proposed to keep a register in the school recording the daily attendance of the children, and the average attendance in each week and each quarter?

27. Will the inscription "NATIONAL SCHOOL" be put up conspicuously on the school-house?

28. Will the general lesson be hung up in the school-room, or if not, will any other, and what, be substituted in its stead?

29. Will the Commissioners, by themselves or their officers, be allowed to visit and examine this school whenever they think fit?

30. Will the school be *bona fide* open for children of all religious denominations?

31. Will access be given to the public of all denominations to visit the school, with liberty to inspect the registry, witness the mode of teaching, and see that the regulations of the school are faithfully observed, though not to interfere with the management, or to interrupt the business of the school?

32. State the titles of all such books as are intended to be used.

If those published and issued by the Board, state which of them.

33. What arrangements have been made, or are proposed to be made, for the religious instruction of the children, either in the school-house or elsewhere?

34. Are they such as not to interfere with or impede the secular business of the school?

35. Are they satisfactory to the parents of the children, and publicly notified?

36. What is the population of the parish, and what proportion of them are of the poorer class?

State anything you can ascertain respecting that portion of the population of the neighbourhood whose children are likely to attend a National School.

37. How many children were present at the time of inspection?

How many on the books for last month?

What was the average daily attendance for the last month?

Is any increase expected, and to what extent?

38. Is the school under the direction of a committee, and by whom chosen?

39. How many days in each week, and how many hours in each day, are employed in instructing the children in the ordinary branches of secular education? State particularly at what hour the school commences and when it closes.

40. Has this application been got up by the teacher or his friends, or for his benefit exclusively?

41. Have you communicated with the clergymen of the different denominations in the neighbourhood with respect to this application, and have they made any, and what, objection thereto?

42. If this school be taken into connection, is there a reasonable prospect that adequate local aid, in addition to what the Commissioners contribute, will be provided for its permanent support?

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Board's.

All, except the Scripture extracts.

Saturday is set apart, in the school-room.

Yes.

Yes; not yet notified.

About 5,000; seven-eighths are of the poorer class.

Nearly all.

34 males, 32 females; 66 total.

39 males, 40 females; 79 total.

31 males, 26 females; 57 total.

15 males, 10 females; 25 total.

No.

Five days in each week and five hours each day. School commences at ten o'clock and closes at three o'clock.

No.

Yes. The clergyman of the Established Church objects upon the ground that the school is not required. The others made no objection.

Yes.

43. State any other circumstances connected with the application you may consider material for the information of the Commissioners, and the grounds upon which you recommend it to be entertained, or otherwise.

44. Have you had an interview with the patron or correspondent of the school? State the religious denomination to which he belongs.

45. Have you communicated personally with any other individuals in the neighbourhood on the subject, and what has been the result of your interview?

46. State the date of your visit.

Notwithstanding that there is a great number of National Schools in the neighbourhood, I recommend that this school be taken into connection upon the following grounds: The house is very well furnished; about one-half of the children present were not advanced beyond the first class, and the attendance has been very favourable during the short period that it has been in operation.

Yes. He is a Roman Catholic clergyman.

Yes, with some of the country people, who seemed to be much interested in the welfare of the school.

21st August 1849.

(signed) John Nixon,  
District Inspector of National Schools.

— No. 12. —

(28,384-75.)

Rev. B. Duffy to the Commissioners of National Education.

Roll Nos. 5,829 and 1,115.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Lansdown Newbliss, 16 December 1876.

TO-DAY I was served with a civil bill ejectment for overholding the Tattenslave and Drumgarley National Schools, by the trustees of Robert Lord Baron Rossmore.

On the 4th instant I asked your honourable Board for all papers in connection with said schools; I now humbly ask for the same, as I am resolved legally to defend my position as manager.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) B. Duffy, P.P.

— No. 13. —

Commissioners of National Education to Rev. B. Duffy.

1115, Drumgarley; and 5829, Tattenslave National Schools.—District 18.

Office of National Schools, Dublin,  
18 December 1876.

Reverend Sir,  
WITH reference to your letter of the 16th instant, stating, as expressed in your previous communication of the 4th instant, that you desired to be supplied with copies of the documents connected with the original establishment of the above-named schools under the Commissioners, we are to inform you that copies of the papers in question were forwarded to you on the 16th instant, and to express a hope that they reached you in due course.

We are, &c.,  
(signed) James Kelly,  
Wm. H. Newell,  
Secretaries.

Rev. B. Duffy, P.P., Newbliss.

— No. 14. —

(741-77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Drumgarley and Tattenslave National Schools, County of Monaghan.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
16 January 1877.

Sirs,  
WITH reference to the above-mentioned National Schools, I beg to inform you that the trustees of Lord Rossmore have obtained ejectments against them in a court of law, and are about to resume possession.

This

This course is being pursued to enable Lord Rossmore to build proper school-houses, as the existing ones are in a deplorable state of dilapidation, and almost unfit for human habitation.

As soon as possible an application will be made to your Board by his Lordship to obtain the usual aid towards such buildings.

I may add, it is not his Lordship's intention to level the present school-houses until the new ones are completed, neither will he interfere with the present manager or schoolmasters, but he will apply to your Board to be made patron of said schools, and he trusts, when arrangements are fully made, that the routine of education, as laid down by the rules of the Board, will be strictly carried out.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd*,  
Agent to Lord Rossmore.

The Secretaries of National Education,  
Dublin.

— No. 15. —

(B. O. 30. 1. 77.)

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

Drumgarley and Tattenclive National Schools.

Sir,

Office of National Education, 2 February 1877.

Yours of the 16th ultimo, on the subject of the ejectments obtained by Lord Rossmore's trustees against the above-mentioned schools, having been laid before the Commissioners of National Education, I am directed to inform you that the Commissioners have sent a copy of your letter to the manager of these schools. I am also directed to inform you that when any applications such as you allude to come before the Commissioners they will deal with them on their merits.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *W. H. Newell*,  
Secretary.

Colonel Jesse Lloyd,  
Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan.

— No. 16. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. B. Duffy.

1115, Drumgarley; and 5829, Tattenclive National Schools.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
3 February 1877.

I AM directed to enclose you a copy of a letter received in this office on the 17th ultimo, from Colonel Lloyd, Monaghan, regarding the above-named schools, and to state that when any applications are submitted to the Commissioners, they will deal with them on their merits.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan*,  
Secretary.

Rev. B. Duffy, F.R.,  
Newbliss.

Drumgarley and Tattenclive National Schools, County of Monaghan.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
16 January 1877.

Sir,  
WITH reference to the above-mentioned National Schools, I beg to inform you that the trustees of Lord Rossmore have obtained ejectments against them in a court of law and are about to resume possession.

This course is being pursued to enable Lord Rossmore to build proper school-houses, as the existing ones are in a deplorable state of dilapidation and almost unfit for human habitation.

As soon as possible an application will be made to your Board by his Lordship to obtain the usual aid towards such buildings. I may add that it is not his Lordship's intention to level the present school-houses until the new ones are completed, neither will he interfere with the present manager or schoolmaster, but he will apply to your Board to be made patron

patron of said schools, and he trusts when arrangements are fully made that the routine of education as laid down by the rules of the Board, will be strictly carried out.

The Secretaries,  
National Education Office, Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd*,  
Agent to Lord Rossmore.

— No. 17. —

(4037-77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

*Re* Drumgarley and Tattenclave National Schools.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
13 February 1877.

Sirs,  
I SHALL thank you to send me at your earliest convenience two sets of forms of application for aid to rebuild the above-mentioned National Schools.

The Secretaries,  
National Education, Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd*.

— No. 18. —

(2394-77.)

Messrs. *M. Murdie* to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh National School,  
8, Donegall-street, Belfast, 21 February 1877.

Dear Sirs,  
THERE is at present an appeal on ejectment pending relative to the Rakeeragh National School, County Monaghan; Lord Rossmore is desirous of including the Commissioners.

The case will be heard at Monaghan before the Judge of Assize on Friday, at 11 o'clock. We are anxious to have in court the original documents relating to the school from the date of its foundation in 1826, and we shall feel obliged if you will send one of your clerks with these documents to-morrow evening or by the first train on Friday morning. We shall be accountable for all necessary expenses. If your clerk wishes to have a vaticum handed to him, our agent, Mr. H. F. Leachman, of 43, Dame-street, will attend to the matter. We are acting for the Rev. Laurence O'Neill, the patron, and he is most anxious that the original documents should be produced in court.

James Kelly, Esq.,  
W. H. Newell, Esq., } Secretaries.  
Board of Education,  
Marlboro'-street, Dublin.\*

We are, &c.,  
(signed) *H. & R. J. M. Murdie*.

— No. 19. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

(4037-77.)

Education Office, Dublin,  
27 February 1877.

Sir,  
We are to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 13th instant, asking for forms of application for aid to rebuild certain National Schools. The forms are at present undergoing revision, and a supply is daily expected from the printer. Immediately on its receipt your request will be complied with.

Col. Jesse Lloyd, Monaghan.

We are, &c.,  
(signed) *Wm. H. Newell*,  
*John E. Sheridan*,  
Secretaries.

[Col. Lloyd has not since made application for aid to rebuild the schools referred to above, viz., Tattenclave and Drumgarley; the blank forms, as promised in this letter, were forwarded to him on 1st March 1877, but have not since been returned.]

4 July 1877.

*Wm. H. Newell*.

\* Note.—In compliance with the request contained in this letter, one of the secretaries attended in court with the original documents.

— No. 20. —

(2974-77.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh National School, County Monaghan.

Ballihay, County Monaghan,

7 March 1877.

Gentlemen,

At the last October Quarter Sessions Lord Rossmore sought and obtained a decree for the possession of the above school-house. That decree was confirmed on appeal by the Judge of Assize on the 24th ultimo; on the 5th instant Lord Rossmore notified his intention of having the decree executed after the lapse of seven days. I am thus about to be deprived of the possession of a school-house, which has been under the management of the successive parish priests of Monaghan since the year 1826, and has been maintained as a National School since 1833.

In order to make suitable provision for the education of the children of the district, it has become necessary for me to erect a new school-house without delay. It will be impossible for me to obtain a site in the immediate vicinity of the old school-house, all the property there being owned by Lord Rossmore; but I have received the offer of a very commodious site at a distance of less than a half-a-mile from the old school-house, on a property owned by Mrs. Catherine Levey, and will at once proceed to build if the Commissioners will give me a grant-in-aid. Mrs. Levey acquired this property by the will of her late father, Owen Kelly, who died on the 14th October 1873. I enclose herewith a copy of his will certified by the district registrar of the Court of Probate. Should it appear to the Commissioners that Mrs. Levey is unable to convey such a title to the premises as would justify them in giving a building grant, I propose to enter into a bond or other form of security, as the Commissioners may desire, to refund to them the sum which may have been advanced, or such proportion of it as they may demand, in the event of the proposed school-house being at any future time diverted from the purpose of a National School. In this bond I will be secured by the Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Clogher, by the manager of the school, and by a solvent layman.

I beg therefore to apply for a grant-in-aid for the building of the proposed school-house, and have the honour to remain,

Yours, &amp;c.,

(signed) L. J. O'Neill, P.P.

The Secretaries,  
Office of National Education.

— No. 21. —

(3228-77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,

13 March 1877.

Sirs,

I beg to inform you that Lord Rossmore has taken possession of Rakeeragh School-house and discontinued school for the present; his Lordship is about to repair the building and when it is re-opened he will apply to be made patron.

I am, &amp;c.,

(signed) Jesse Lloyd.

The Secretaries,  
National Education, Dublin.

— No. 22. —

District Inspector to the Commissioners of National Education.

7963, Rakeeragh National School, County Monaghan.—District 18.

Gentlemen,

Monaghan, 14 March 1877.

I beg to forward for the consideration of the Commissioners the enclosed note received yesterday from Colonel Lloyd, agent over the property on which the school-house is built.

I remain, &amp;c.,

(signed) M. Molony.

The Secretaries, Education Office, Dublin.

Enclosure.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
13 March 1877.

Sir,

I beg to inform you that Lord Rossmore has taken absolute possession of Rakeeragh School-house, and has closed the same. I shall thank you to send this notification to your Commissioners at once.

M. Melony, Esq., Monaghan.

I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd.*

— No. 23. —

(3556-77.)

Rev. B. Duffy to the Commissioners of National Education.

Tattenclave National School Roll, No. 5,829.—County Monaghan.

Gentlemen,

Newbliss, 21 March 1877.

I beg to inform you that I have this day transferred the above school to an adjacent house in the neighbourhood, which I consider will be a decided improvement from the former one.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *B. Duffy, v.r.,*  
Manager.

The Secretaries, Education Office,  
Marlboro'-street, Dublin.

— No. 24. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. L. J. O'Neill.

7903, Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
22 March 1877.

Reverend Sir,

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter received from Colonel Lloyd, Monaghan, for your perusal, and for any remarks you may think proper to make for the consideration of the Board. I have to request the favour of an early reply.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan,*  
Secretary.

Rev. L. J. O'Neill, v. r., Ballyhay.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
13 March 1877.

Sir,

I beg to inform you that Lord Rossmore has taken possession of Rakeeragh School-house, and discontinued school for the present; his Lordship is about to repair the building, and when it is re-opened, he will apply to be made patron.

The Secretaries, National Education,  
Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd.*

— No. 25. —

## RAKEERAGH, COUNTY MONAGHAN.

Opinion of *Piers F. White, Esq., Q.C.*, Law Adviser to the Commissioners of National Education.

(Law Book 5, pp. 174-5.)

Letter 2874-77, and copy will of O. Kelly sent for opinion, as to course which should be pursued by the Commissioners in regard to this application.

"24th March 1877.—(1.) Inquire the name of the townland or denomination out of which the proposed site is to be taken.

"(2.) Also whether Charles Kelly is still alive in the lunatic asylum, and whether there is any, or what, probability of his recovery.

"P. F. W."

(See Letter 6967-77 for reply.)

Letter 6967-77, in reply to above Queries submitted with the other papers.

"4th April 1877.—I think a lease may be accepted on the terms proposed in the Rev. Mr. O'Neill's letter. I presume the lunatic was never married; but the question may as well be asked.

"P. F. W."

(7433-77, in reply, states, lunatic was never married.)

— No. 26. —

Roll No. —District No. 18.

Number of letter requesting aid, 4037-77.

Date received in office, 15 February 1877.

Blank forms of application dispatched, 1 March 1877.

Application received in office, 24 March 1877.

Acknowledged by circular, 28 March 1877.

Notified to district inspector, 28 March 1877.

Report received in Application Office, 2 May 1877.

Referred to sub-committee, 2 May 1877.

APPLICATION to the Commissioners of National Education for Aid towards Building a School-house in the County of Monaghan, in the Barony of Monaghan, in the Parish of Monaghan, and in the Townland of Tanderagee, to be called TANDERAGEE NATIONAL SCHOOL.

Two intended school-house will be vested in trustees, viz:—Captain Thomas Coote, of Raconnell House, and Wm. Mitchell, Esq., Lisdoogan House, both in the parish of Tydavnet, Barony, and County of Monaghan, by virtue of a lease for 61 years, which will be made them by Lord Rosemore, the owner in fee.

It is expected there will be about 100 children in attendance; one school-room will be sufficient.

*Jesse Lloyd*, Applicant and Manager.

Address—Ballyleck, Monaghan.

Religious denomination—late E.C.

Dated 23 March 1877.

— No. 27. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. L. J. O'Neill.

## Rakeeragh National School.

Reverend Sir,

Education Office, 27 March 1877.

With reference to your letter of 7th instant, I have to request you will be good enough to state, for the information of the law adviser of the Board,

329.

C 4

(1.) What

(1.) What is the name of the townland or demoralization out of which the proposed site is to be taken?

(2.) Is Charles Kelly still alive in the lunatic asylum, and if so, is there any, and what, probability of his recovery?

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P. R., Ballibay,  
County Monaghan.

— No. 28. —

(3836-77.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.

7983, Rakeeragh National School.—County Monaghan.

Gentlemen,

Ballibay, 27 March 1877.

I AM in receipt of your letter of the above date, enclosing a copy of a letter of Colonel Lloyd, with reference to the management of Rakeeragh National School.

In reply, I beg leave to protest against Lord Rossmore being recognised as manager of the school on the following grounds:—

Though Lord Rossmore is at present in possession of the school building, I have obtained a promise of a site for a new school-house in the immediate vicinity, and have applied for a building grant, and am determined to erect a new school-house, whether I obtain a building grant or not. This school has been in connection with the National Board for the last 44 years, and has, during that time, been managed in entire conformity with the Board's rules by the Catholic clergymen of the parish of Monaghan. And I respectfully submit that it would be neither fair nor in accordance with the rules and practice of the National Board, to remove from the management of a National School, one against whom no violation of the Board's rules can be alleged. Besides, though Lord Rossmore is in actual possession of the school-house, it yet remains to be decided whether he is in rightful possession. Mr. Justice Barry, at the last assizes in Monaghan, when affirming the decree of the Chairman of Quarter Sessions against the tenant on whose holding, as alleged by Lord Rossmore, the school-house is situate, took occasion to remark, that if Lord Rossmore entered on the school premises, he would do so entirely at his own risk, and would leave himself open to an action for damages, or a cross-ejectment, if it should afterwards appear that he was in reality not entitled to them; thus the question of title to the school-house as between Lord Rossmore and the present manager is as yet undecided.

2. I further submit that to acknowledge Lord Rossmore as manager of this school, would be detrimental to the interests of education in the district. The school, as you are aware, has been a most efficient one, whereas those already under his Lordship's management have been quite the reverse, as, unless I am greatly mistaken, the reports of your officers will show.

3. In applying to be recognised as manager, Lord Rossmore in effect, asks you to give your sanction to this principle, viz., that a landed proprietor has not only a legal right, but a moral right to seize on the school-houses which may be situate within the boundaries of his estate, and to assume the management of the education of his tenantry as part of his territorial rights. The acknowledgment by you of any such right on the part of a landlord would be, in my opinion, contrary to the practice which has hitherto prevailed at your Board, to the undoubted advantage of the education of the country.

4. I would respectfully ask you to consider whether the conduct of Lord Rossmore and his agent, in regard to this school, for the past 12 months, has been such as to recommend their claim to be recognised as managers of it. Towards the close of the year 1875, a number of Lord Rossmore's tenants who had been sending their children to this school were summoned to the rent-office, and ordered to withdraw their children from it. Those who refused were soon afterwards noticed to give up their hog, their refusal to withdraw their children from this school being assigned as the reason. All this time the efficiency of the school was not denied; neither was it alleged that the rules of the National Board were not observed in it. Such conduct, I consider, disqualifies these gentlemen from having the management of any National School whatever, and this I submit emphatically for the consideration of the Board.

5. It has been stated as Lord Rossmore's reason for taking possession of the school-house that he wished to put it in proper repair. On this I have only to remark that repeated application was made to Lord Rossmore and Colonel Lloyd to alter their publicly expressed determination to seize on the school-house, and to allow me to repair it at my own cost; and that the application was repeatedly refused.

Finally,



Finally, gentlemen in considering Lord Rossmore's demand to have me removed from the management of the school and to have himself recognised in my stead, I would ask you to remember that the Catholic clergy of the parish of Monaghan have expended nearly 4,000 *l.* on school-houses in the parish, whilst Lord Rossmore, the owner of two-thirds of the rateable property in the parish, has never expended as many hundreds.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) L. J. O'Neill, r.p.

— No. 29. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

7963, Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
28 March 1877.

Sir,

THE Commissioners of National Education have had under their consideration your letter of the 18th instant, in which you state, "Lord Rossmore has taken possession of Rakeeragh School-house, and discontinued school for the present; his Lordship is about to repair the building, and when it is re-opened he will apply to be made parson."

The Commissioners direct me to inform you that they have not received any communication from the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, r.p., Ballibay, the recognised manager of Rakeeragh, N.S. stating that this school has been closed.

Colonel Jesse Lloyd, r.p.,  
Monaghan.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) Wm. H. Newell, Secretary.

— No. 30. —

Commissioners of National Education to District Inspector.

Roll No. 5829.—Tattensclaw National School.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
28 March 1877.

Sir,

I ENCLOSE you herewith a copy of a letter received in this office on the 22nd inst. from the manager of the above-named school, and in reference thereto have to request you to visit the school without delay, and report on the new house, using the supplemental form of report.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan, Secretary.

M. Molony, Esq., District Inspector.

Roll No. 5829.—Tattensclaw National School, County Monaghan.

Gentlemen,

Newbliss, 21 March 1877.

I AM to inform you that I have this day transferred the above school to an adjacent house in the neighbourhood, which I consider will be a decided improvement from the former one.

The Secretaries, Education Office,  
Marlborough-street, Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) B. Duffy, r.p.,  
Manager.

— No. 31. —

(3932-77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
29 March 1877.

Sirs,

I AM in receipt of your letter of 28th inst., informing me that the Rev. L. J. O'Neill has not apprised you of the closing of Rakeeragh School-house.

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In reply, I beg to inform you that on the 13th instant I notified to your district inspector, Mr. Molony, that the landlord had resumed possession of said school *and closed it*.

The Secretaries of  
National Education, Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd*,  
Agent.

— No. 32. —

(8967-77.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh National School, 27th March 1877.

Gentlemen,

Ballibay, 29 March 1877.

In reply to your letter quoted above, I beg to state (1) that Beaghbarton is the name of the townland out of which the proposed site is to be taken, and (2) that Charles Kelly is still alive in the Monaghan Lunatic Asylum, and that there is no probability, nor indeed any possibility of his recovery. Should you desire it, I will forward a certificate of the resident medical superintendent to this effect.

The Secretaries, Education Office.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *L. J. O'Neill, P.P.*

— No. 33. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. L. J. O'Neill

Reverend Sir,

Education Office, 29 March 1877.

With reference to your letter of 7th instant, applying for aid to build a school-house in place of the Rathkeeragh National School, I beg to forward you herewith forms of application and instructions for filling them.

Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P.,  
Ballibay, County Monaghan.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan*,  
Secretary.

— No. 34. —

(3834-77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Sirs,

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
2 April 1877.

I SHALL thank you to let me know at earliest convenience has the name of Rakeeragh National School been struck off the books of your Commissioners, and oblige—

The Secretaries,  
National Education, Dublin.

Yours, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd*.

— No. 35. —

## APPLICATION TO BUILD RAKEERAGH SCHOOL.

Roll No. 11,568, District No. 18.

Number of Letter requesting Aid, 2,974-77.  
 Date received in office, 8 March 1877.  
 Blank forms of application despatched, 8 March 1877.  
 Application received in office, 4 April 1877.  
 Acknowledged by circular, 4 April 1877.  
 Notified to district inspector, 4 April 1877.

Report received in application office, 14 April 1877.  
 Lease queries sent to applicant, 9 March 1877.  
 Ditto ditto - Board of Works, 6 April 1877.  
 Ditto ditto - law adviser, 24 March 1877.  
 Referred to sub-committee, 14 April 1877.

APPLICATION to the Commissioners of National Education for Aid towards Building a School-house in the County of Monaghan, the Barony of Monaghan, the Parish of Monaghan, and Townland of Beaghbarton, to be called RAKEERAGH NATIONAL SCHOOL, because it is to take the place of the old School-house held by the successive Parish Priests of Monaghan for the last 44 years, and lately seized upon by Lord Rossmore.

I now leave to apply for aid towards building a school-house, to be called Rakeeragh National School; the proposed site is situate in the county of Monaghan, parish of Monaghan, barony of Monaghan, and townland of Beaghbarton. The lease of the site is to be made by Mrs. Catherine Leavey. The title under which she proposes to make the lease you will be able to infer from my letter of the 7th ultimo on the subject of this school. It is not proposed that the site shall be vested in the Commissioners, but it will be vested in trustees. An attendance is expected of 60 male and 40 female children; one school-room only will be required. The local manager will be Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.R., Ballihay.

I have also to protest against a grant-in-aid for building a new school-house to replace the old building known as Rakeeragh National School being given to any person except to me. I mention this because I think it not improbable that Lord Rossmore, or his land agent Colonel Lloyd, may apply for such a grant. Lord Rossmore has never had anything to do with Rakeeragh School, although it has been a National School for upwards of 40 years. During all that time it has been under the management of the Catholic clergy. I think it right also to forewarn the Commissioners, that if they give a building grant to Lord Rossmore, or Colonel Lloyd, they will be merely throwing away the public money, because the children of that exclusively Catholic district are not going to be handed over to the care and training of either of those gentlemen.

I trust the Commissioners will hasten as much as possible the correspondence with respect to this proposed school, in order that the building may be completed during the course of the coming summer.

Ballihay, 3 April 1877.

Yours, &c.,  
 (signed) L. J. O'Neill, P.R.

— No. 36. —

LEASE QUERIES to be answered in order that the proper Deed may be prepared according to the Form required by the Commissioners of National Education for vesting the Plot of Ground upon which it is proposed to erect a National School-house at Rakeeragh, County Monaghan.

1. The christian and surname and residence of the grantor, or person who is to make the lease; stating the county or city in which the residence is situated.

2. Is the grantor's estate in settlement by virtue of any deed, articles, or will?

3. Is the grantor—

Tenant in fee? - - - - -

Tenant in tail? - - - - -

Tenant for life or lives? - - - - -

Tenant for years? - - - - -

NOTE.—If the grantor holds as a tenant for a life or lives, give name, age, and description of such life or lives; and if he holds as tenant for years, state for what number.

Catherine Leavey of Beaghbarton, county Monaghan.

For reply to second query, I beg to refer you to copy of the will of the late Owen Kelly, of Beaghbarton, which I forwarded to you on the 7th ult.

Grantor holds under a fee farm grant.

4. If the grantor's estate be in settlement, then state if he possesses any leasing power thereunder, and what length of lease is authorised by such power.

5. For what length of time will the grantor agree to make the proposed lease?

6. Has he made any other leases on his estate for the same term as he now proposes to grant?

7. Is it proposed to vest the premises in the Commissioners in their corporate capacity?

8. If so, state the title, christian and surname of the person whose name is to be inserted in the lease as patron of the intended school.

9. If the site is to be vested in trustees, state the christian and surname of each of them, with their places of residence, their professions, trades, or occupations, and their religious denominations, respectively.

10. There must, in this case, be three trustees to the deed.

10. Describe the site of the school-house.

As to county? - - - - -  
 " parish? - - - - -  
 " barony? - - - - -  
 " townland? - - - - -

11. State how the plot of ground to be appropriated to school purposes is bounded, in order that same may be described in the lease,

On the north? - - - - -  
 On the east? - - - - -  
 On the west? - - - - -  
 On the south? - - - - -

And mention the names of the lands, which form any part of the boundaries, and in whose occupation such lands are.

12. State the dimensions, in feet or yards, of the whole plot of ground proposed to be granted for the purposes of the school; setting forth the number of feet or yards the plot of ground extends,

In front - - - - -  
 In rear - - - - -  
 In depth from front to rear - - - - -

13. Give a sketch or map of the school premises within the space marked out on this paper for the purpose, and showing the cardinal points; and observe that the map corresponds with the answers to the 11th and 12th queries.

The cardinal points must be marked on the map; and it must be shown on the map how the school is to be approached from the public road.

The grantor's leasing power can be inferred from the will of Owen Kelly mentioned in reply to query 2.

61 years.

No.

No.

Most Rev. James Donnelly, D.D., Bishop's Residence, Monaghan; Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P., Ballibay; and Rev. Peter McGlone, C.C., Monaghan.

Monaghan.  
 Monaghan.  
 Monaghan.  
 Beaghbarton.

By avenue to Mrs. Leavey's house.

By a fence.

By Mrs. Leavey's field.

By public road.

The site is bounded on the N.E. and W. by the lands of Beaghbarton, in occupation of Catherine Leavey, and on south by public road.

43 yards.

54 yards.

25 yards.

(See Drawing opposite.)

(signed) L. J. O'Neill, Applicant, P.P., Post Town, Ballibay.  
 Kate Leavey, Grantor.

Return this sheet of queries with full answers, together with the original lease, or abstract of the title of the grantor.

By desire of the Commissioners.

Wm. H. Newell, } Secretaries.  
 John E. Sheridan, }

— No. 37. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. L. J. O'Neill

7963.—Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education,  
Dublin, 4 April 1877.

Reverend Sir,  
I AM to inform you that your letter of the 27th ult., regarding the above-named school, shall be brought before the Commissioners at their next meeting.

Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P.,  
Ballybay.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) Wm. H. Newell,  
Secretary.

— No. 38. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

7963.—Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education,  
Dublin, 4 April 1877.

Sir,  
WITH reference to your letter of the 2nd instant, I am to inform you that the Rakeeragh School has not been struck off the roll of National Schools. The manager has on this subject addressed a letter to the Commissioners, which will be considered at the next meeting of the Board.

Col. J. Lloyd, Monaghan.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) Wm. H. Newell,  
Secretary.

— No. 39. —

(4028—77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
5 April 1877.

Sirs,  
I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 4th instant, relative to Rakeeragh National School.

I am greatly surprised that this matter has not yet been laid before the Commissioners, as it is over three weeks since I first notified to you the legal eviction of the school-house by the landlords; I am also surprised at the name of the school not being removed from your books.

I shall thank you to send me at earliest convenience a copy of the manager's letter to the Commissioners, and which is referred to in yours of 4th instant.

I shall also thank you to bring before the Commissioners, at their next meeting, my application for building a vested school in Tanderagen.

The Secretaries,  
National Education, Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) Jesse Lloyd, Agent.

— No. 40. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

7963. Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,

6 April 1877.

Sir,

I AM to inform you that your letter of the 13th March was formally brought before the Commissioners, and that their decision was conveyed to you in my letter of the 28th ultimo.

Your letter of yesterday's date shall be submitted to the Board on Tuesday next.

The District Inspector was instructed, in due course, to report upon the Tenderages application case.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) Wm. H. Newell,  
Secretary.

Colonel J. Lloyd, J.P., Monaghan.

— No. 41. —

(4126—77.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.

Gentlemen,

Ballibay, 9 April 1877.

I HAVE just learned that Colonel Lloyd has made application to the Commissioners to have the old Rakeeragh School struck off the rolls of the National Board, and that this question is to come under consideration at the meeting of the Board on to-morrow. Now, as manager of this school of 42 years' standing as a National school, I protest humbly and earnestly against this application of Colonel Lloyd. He has, no doubt, seized on the old school premises and shut up the school-house, but I have obtained a suitable site for a school-house, and have applied for a building grant to aid in its erection. I propose to set about the building as soon as my application for a building grant has been dealt with by the Commissioners.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) L. J. O'Neill, P.P.

— No. 42. —

## REPORT OF DISTRICT INSPECTOR.

(Received in Office, 14th April 1877.)

A.D. 1877.

District No. 18.—Roll No. 5829.

N.B.—This form is to be used, in addition to the ordinary report:—(1.) On first visit to a school after having been taken into consideration. (2.) On occasion of change of house. (3.) On the opening of schools for which building grants were made.

## SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT upon TATTENCLAVE NATIONAL SCHOOL.

Vested or Non-vested?—Not.

Distance from Inspector's Residence—Seven-and-a-half miles on road from Stranorlar to Aghabog.

Parish of Aghabog, County of Monaghan.

Post town of school, Lismahard.  
Distance from school, two miles.

Townland, Liscomiskey.  
Barony, Dartrey.

Inspected on 9th day of April.

1. How long has school been held in present house?

Since the 22nd March last.

2. From what funds was the building erected?

Built originally as a barn, converted into a school-house by funds raised by local subscription.

3. If any rent paid for it, state its amount? Who pays it, and to whom?

£. s yearly.

Rev. W. J. Gaughran, c.c., to Patrick McPhillips, on whose farm the house stands.

No.

4. If the school is on church, chapel, or meeting-house ground, or connected with any house of divine worship, or convent, or other religious establishment, give the name of such, and state in what way the school is connected?

A small house, consisting of one story and one room, having a thatched roof and clay floor; it is built of stone, lime, and mortar. Premises are not enclosed.

5. Describe the school-house, as to materials, number of rooms, stories, &amp;c., and say if premises are enclosed, and how?

I. One. II. One. III. One.

6. (I.) How many school-rooms are there in this house? (II.) How many occupied as such? (III.) How many under this Roll No.?

18 by 14 by 7½ feet.

7. Internal length, breadth, and height of each school-room under this Roll No., as ascertained by your own measurement?

8. Is there a fire-place in each? - - -

Yes.

9. (I.) Are the windows sufficient in number (II.) of suitable size and structure (III.) and do they admit of being opened for ventilation?

I. Yes. II. Yes. III. Yes. The room is properly lighted and ventilated.

10. Are there privies? In what state as to repair and cleanliness?

No; none in connection with former house, which this is intended to replace.

11. Are there separate entrances for the sexes?

No.

12. If the teachers' apartments are attached to the school-room, does any inconvenience arise therefrom?

No.

13. If there are any other apartments, state their uses?

Very fair.

14. State of repair as to roof, walls, glazing, flooring and fitting up?

15. Are

16. Are there any defects in house, furniture, or premises requiring alteration or special attention? If so, specify them?

16. If school-rooms are not wholly employed for the use of the children, state for what other purposes are they used?

17. How many desks and forms are there, and what are their lengths?

18. Are they of suitable form and structure, and in proper repair?

19. Is there a suitable desk or table for teacher?

20. Is there a suitable book press, with lock and key?

21. State the names of the National Schools within three miles, with their respective distances from this school?

(National Schools in the same house, or adjoining or in whatever close proximity, are to be given.)

22. State also the other schools for the poor within similar limits, with their respective distances; and specify under what society.

The house is rather small, and is situated in a farmer's yard, but quite near to the public road.

Yes; solely for the use of the pupils.

Five desks and one separate form, 8 feet each.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Latsmard, 2 miles; Drumhillagh, 2 miles; Urcher, 2½ miles; Dawson, 2 miles; Corcaghan, male and female, 1½ miles; and Drumahoney, male and female, 2½ miles.

Ruanslogh and Nart, about two miles each. I believe these schools are not connected with any society now, but are supported by subscriptions from neighbouring landowners.

The manager was evicted from the former school-house by Lord Rossmore, and in consequence obliged to transfer the school to this house, which is central, accommodates fairly the number (nearly) in average attendance, and is the best house that can be provided, pending the erection of a new school-house, for which a site has been procured.

I beg respectfully to recommend that the transfer of the school to this house be sanctioned, as a temporary arrangement pending the erection of a new school-house.

(signed) *M. Molony*,  
District Inspector.

11 April 1877.

— No. 43. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. *L. J. O'Neill*.

Rakeeragh National School.

Reverend Sir,

Education Office, 10 April 1877.

REPLYING to your letter of 29th ultimo, I have to request you will be good enough to state, for the information of the Board's law adviser, whether it is a fact that the lunatic, Charles Kelly, was never married.

With reference to the concluding portion of your letter of the 7th ultimo, in which you state—"Should it appear to the Commissioners that Mrs. Leavey is unable to convey such a title to the premises as would justify them in giving a building grant, I propose to enter into a bond, or other form of security as the Commissioners may desire, to refund to them the sum which may have been advanced, or such portion of it as they may demand, in the event of the proposed school-house being at any future time diverted from the purpose of a national school. In this bond I will be secured by the most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Clogher, by the manager of the school, and by a solvent layman;" you will be good enough to give the names, &c., of the "solvent layman," and the person described as "manager of the school," by whom you are to be joined in the proposed bond.

Rev. *L. J. O'Neill, F.P.*,  
Ballibay.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan*,  
Secretary.



— No. 44. —

## CLERK OF WORKS' REPORT.

On Site proposed for a National School-house at *Rakeeragh*, County *Monaghan*.

Applicant, Rev. L. J. O'Neill - - - -	Post Town of School, Monaghan.
Post Town, Ballybay - - - -	Distance from ditto, three miles.

To accommodate 100 Children.—Three Plans.

1. What are the dimensions of the site proposed to be leased to the Commissioners?	In front, 154 feet. In rear, 162 feet. From front to rear, 75 feet on west side; 15 feet on east side.
2. Does it afford sufficient space for the intended building and yards?	Hardly sufficient.
3. How is it bounded? - - - -	North, by avenue to Mrs. Leavey's house. South, a stream, which is also the townland boundary. East, Mrs. Leavey's land. West, Mrs. Leavey's land.
4. Is it enclosed, and how? - - - -	Enclosed on the north side only by a good thorn fence, and, if taken, the plot.
5. If not, is an enclosure required, and of what kind?	Should be enclosed on the other sides by rubble walls.
6. Is it easy of access from a public road? -	The stream, to which there is a rapid descent from the road, and also a strip of the adjoining townland, lie between the plot and public road (see map). The avenue to Mrs. Leavey's house would be the easiest way of access.
7. Is it in a healthy situation? - - - -	The situation is healthy, and there is every facility for drainage and water supply.
8. Can good water be obtained on or near the site?	
9. In what manner can it be drained? - -	
10. Is the surface level? - - - -	The surface rises rapidly (about 1 in 4) to the rear boundary line.
11. Can a solid foundation be attained at a moderate depth?	Yes, at about 1 foot 6 inches.
12. For what purpose has it been used? -	Tillage.
13. State any objection to the site not contained in the foregoing queries?	The site is by no means an eligible one. The buildings would have to be placed in a deep cutting close to the avenue, and owing to the narrowness of the plot, the buildings proposed could not be well placed on it.
14. Would you recommend the Commissioners to accept the site?	I would not, unless, indeed, it can be shown beyond doubt that a better site cannot be procured.

(signed) John Cockburn, Clerk of Works.

Date of visit, 11 April 1877.

— No. 45. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. L. J. O'Neill.

7863.—Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
12 April 1877.

Reverend Sir,  
I AM directed to inform you that the Commissioners had under consideration, on the 10th instant, your letters of the 27th ultimo and 9th instant.

329.

E

They

They have directed the district inspector to report whether the Rakeeragh National School is closed, and, if so, when it closed; whether you, as manager, have taken any steps to provide accommodation for the children who attended it, pending the erection of a new school-house; and to furnish any other particulars of information that he may deem it advisable to have submitted to them.

Rev. L. J. O'Neill, F.P.,  
Ballybay.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Wm. H. Newell*,  
Secretary.

— No. 46. —

Commissioners of National Education to District Inspector.

7963.—Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
12 April 1877.

Sir,  
You will, at your earliest convenience, state whether the Rakeeragh National School is closed, and, if so, when it closed; whether the manager, the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, F.P., has taken any steps to provide accommodation for the children who attended it, pending the erection of a new school-house, and furnish any other particulars of information that you may deem it advisable to have submitted to the Commissioners.

M. Molony, Esq.,  
District Inspector, 18.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Wm. H. Newell*,  
Secretary.

— No. 47. —

(4334—77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

From Colonel Lloyd, Rosemore Agency Office, Monaghan, to the Secretary of National Education, Marlborough-street, Dublin.

Monaghan, 12 April 1877.

PLEASE inform me if Rakeeragh National School has been struck off the Board's list, and what is the result of my application at your meeting of Tuesday?

— No. 48. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

7963.—Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
12 April 1877.

Sir,  
I READ the honour of submitting your letter of the 5th instant to the Commissioners, at their meeting on the 10th instant.

They have decided that before taking any final action with reference to the Rakeeragh National School, the district inspector should state whether the school is closed, and, if so, when it closed; whether the manager, the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, F.P., has taken any steps to provide accommodation for the children who attended it, pending the erection of a new school-house, and to furnish any other particulars of information that he may deem it advisable to have submitted to the Board.

Colonel J. Lloyd, J.P.,  
Monaghan.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *Wm. H. Newell*,  
Secretary.

No. 40.

## CLERK OF WORKS' REPORT.

On Inclosing the Site of a National School at *Rakeeragh*, County *Monaghan*.

Sir,

Derry, 13 April, 1877.

I now leave to submit the following estimate, and to recommend that a grant of two-thirds of the amount may be made, on condition that the work is executed according to the specification.

## ESTIMATE:

	Rate.	
	s. d.	£. s. d.
80 yards, lineal, of stone wall, 18 inches thick, 4 feet high over surface, built of good rubble masonry and coped with stones set fair on edge.	7 0	28 0 0
No. 2. Rough punched stone piers, 2 feet square, 4 feet 6 inches high, to caps 2 feet 6 inches square, 4 inches thick on edge, and 9 inches in centre, mitred on top.	40 0	4 0 0
No. 1. Wrought-iron gate, 4 feet square, back stile 1½ inch square, front stile 1½ inch square, two cross rails 2 inches by ½ inch, bracketted and framed into the stiles, 6 upright bars, 1½ inch by ½ inch, rivetted to the cross-rails, to be hung with wrought-iron, claw-eye, and cast-iron heel sockets, and to have a good bolt and lock, painted four coats, black.	20 0	1 0 0
24 feet, lineal, of punched stone steps inside entrance - - - - -	2 6	3 0 0
Total cost - - - - -	£.	36 0 0
Local contribution, one-third - - - - -	-	12 0 0
Amount of grant, two-thirds - - - - -	£.	24 0 0

The Secretary, Office of Public Works, Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *John Cockburn*,  
Clerk of Works.

No. 50.

Notified to District Inspector, 4th April 1877. | Report received, 14th April 1877.

Decided upon by Board, 20th May 1877.

REPORT upon Application for Aid towards building a School-house in the County of *Monaghan*.

Name of proposed School, *Rakeeragh*. Name of Correspondent, *Rev. L. J. O'Neill*.  
Religious Denomination, *R. C.* Post Town, *Ballybay*.

Post Town, nearest site, *Monaghan*. Distance from site 2½ miles. On road from *Monaghan* to *Castleblayney*.

- Where is the site of the proposed school-house?  
In what townland? - - -  
In what parish? - - -  
In what barony? - - -
- If in a town or village, give its name, and state the amount of its population.
- If in the country, state the number of dwellings or of families within a circuit of half a mile of proposed site.
- State the extent of the site, and its dimensions.
- Is it in a healthy situation?

In a field adjoining public road.

*Beaghbarton*.  
*Monaghan*.  
*Monaghan*.

From 35 to 40.

Yes.

6. Is it to be enclosed, and how?
7. Is there any, and what extent of ground for agricultural purposes?
8. Is it a portion of church, chapel, or meeting-house yard?
9. Is it contiguous to or near any?
10. Is it in connexion with any religious establishment?
11. If so, has inquiry been made to procure any other site, and what has been the result of the inquiry?
12. How are you satisfied that such inquiry has been made?
13. Who are the proprietors of the land and tenements in the locality?
14. What is the name and distance of the nearest post town, and in what direction?
15. State the christian and surname and residence of the person making a lease of the site, and what title he has to the ground.

16. For what length of time does the grantor agree to give the lease?

17. Is the ground liable to any, and what rent?

18. What number of children may be expected to attend the school, distinguishing males and females, and what is the population of the parish, distinguishing that portion of it likely to need such a school?

19. State the number of the plan of school-house which you consider most suitable for this locality.

20. What amount of local subscription has been raised, or is likely to be raised towards the erection of the house?

21. Upon what grounds or information do you base your answer to the last query?

22. Does a necessity exist for the building of a new schoolhouse here? Give the reasons for your opinion fully and explicitly.

control of the Roman clergy of Monaghan, and the object of this application is to replace that schoolhouse by a new and more suitable one to be vested in trustees. In the Rakeeragh School when closed there were on rolls 80 pupils. In average attendance 48, and in the plain duty to provide these children with school accommodation lies the necessity for the proposed school-house.

23. State the names and circumstances of such National Schools as are in the neighbourhood within a circuit of three miles, the average number of children attending them, and whether vested, or not vested, and their respective distances from the proposed site.

Yes, by a wall.

No.

No.

No.

No.

Mrs. Leavy, Lord Dartrey, and Lord Rossmore.

Monaghan, 2½ miles north.

Mrs. Catherine Leavey, who under the will of her late father, Owen Kelly, holds the property during her life with reversion to her eldest son now about 10 years old, but in the event of her only brother, who has been an inmate of a lunatic asylum during past 12 years, recovering his senses, the property would then vest in him.

80 years.

Expected number on rolls: males, 60; females, 45—Total 105.

Average daily attendance, males, 35; females, 30—Total 65.

(b.) Population of parish, 8,243, including population of town, 3,632.

(c.) Population of the portion of parish likely to need the proposed school, about 230.

No. 2.

From 90 £. to 100 £.

The statement of applicant; there appears to be no doubt that the necessary amount of local funds will be fully subscribed.

Yes, in last month the applicant was evicted by Lord Rossmore from the Rakeeragh National School-house, Roll No. 7,963, which had been for over 40 years in the possession and under the control of the Roman clergy of Monaghan, and the object of this application is to replace that schoolhouse by a new and more suitable one to be vested in trustees. In the Rakeeragh School when closed there were on rolls 80 pupils. In average attendance 48, and in the plain duty to provide these children with school accommodation lies the necessity for the proposed school-house.

School.	Vested or Non-vested.	Distance.	Average Attendance.
		Miles.	
1. Greaghglass	-	0½	50
2. Lillistrim	-	1	57
3. Rakeeragh	-	0½	46
4. Anaghligh	-	1½	50
5. Corneen	-	1½	38
6. Drummerstown	-	1½	37
7. Braddag	-	1½	40
8. Castlesheane	-	2½	50
9. Monaghan Current	-	0	134
10. Monaghan Model School.	V. C.	0	210

24. State the names of all other schools for the poor within similar limits, and their general circumstances so far as you can ascertain them.

25. State the precise distance of the site of the proposed schools, from the site of any other applicant schools, whether for aid towards building, or for salary and books, distinguishing each.

26. Have you consulted the clergymen of the different denominations as to making any arrangement for giving religious instruction in the proposed school?

27. Have you presented to the parties concerned in this application, a copy of the proper lease.

28. Are they willing that such lease shall be executed?

29. Have you had an interview with the patron or local manager of the school?

30. If the proposed manager be a layman, state his profession, business, or occupation.

31. With what other individuals have you communicated personally on the subject, and what has been the result of your interview?

32. Is it intended that the premises shall be vested in the Commissioners in their corporate capacity, or in trustees?

33. If it is proposed to vest the site in trustees, state the name, residence, profession or occupation, and religious denomination, of each of them.

34. Have you ascertained whether they are willing to undertake the office, and whether, from their circumstances and position, you can recommend them as being eligible for the proposed Trust?

35. State any other circumstances connected with this application, which you may consider material for the information of the Commissioners, and the grounds upon which you recommend that it should be entertained, or otherwise.

more than the school it is intended to replace did.

III. The site is central and convenient.

IV. As regards Mrs. Leavy's title to the grounds of which the proposed site is a part, the applicant has informed me that he has furnished the Commissioners with a certified copy of her father's will.

V. The pupils attending the Rakeeragh School are the children of small farmers, or cottiers, and it is in the interest of these poor people that I would respectfully recommend the Commissioners to aid the applicant in providing them with proper school accommodation. In my opinion the school, if erected, will command an average attendance of about 60 pupils.

36. State the date of your visit? - - - | 10th day of April 1877.

(signed) *Michael Molony,*  
District Inspector of National Schools.

One large school under Christian Brothers in the town of Monaghan, three miles distant.

The site is five-eighth mile from the Tanderagee Applicant Building Case; there is no other applicant case in the locality.

The applicant in the Tanderagee case is Colonel Lloyd, agent to Lord Rossmore.

I have written to them and will forward their replies to the office in a day or two.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

—

With none other.

In trustees.

Most Rev. James Donnelly, Roman Catholic bishop; Rev. L. J. O'Neill, Roman Catholic parish priest, and Rev. Peter McGlone, Roman Catholic curate.

Yes.

I. See reply to Query 22 as to the necessity for providing school accommodation for the pupils who attended the Rakeeragh National School, now closed.

II. The school if erected will not in the least interfere with any existing National School, no

— No. 51. —

(4350—77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh National School.

Sir,

Estate Office, Monaghan, 14 April 1877.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 12th instant, and am surprised at its contents, as you inform me that, before the Commissioners take final action in this matter, "the district inspector should state whether the school is closed, and, if so, when it closed," &c.

Now I should state that I wrote the district inspector, on the 13th March, giving him notice that the school was closed, and requesting that he would inform the Commissioners accordingly; he wrote me that he had complied with my request; fearing, however, that there might be some mistake, I wrote him again yesterday, and have his reply as follows:—

"I communicated to the Commissioners the substance of your note of the 13th ultimo, regarding Rakeeragh National Schools, but I believe it was on the 14th ultimo; at all events, not later than the 17th ultimo."

It appears to me very strange that the Commissioners now decline taking action until they receive information, which has been furnished through the proper channel a month since. Will you, therefore, please explain how this is, for, independent of the inspector's communication, I wrote myself direct to the Commissioners informing them that the school was closed.

I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd.*

Wm. H. Newell, Esq.,  
Secretary, National Education.

— No. 52. —

District Inspector to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh Building Application.—District 18.

Gentlemen,

Monaghan, 14 April 1877.

I. REFERENCE to my report of 13th instant upon this case, query 4, I beg to state that the site of the proposed school forms an irregular four-sided figure, the sides being 162, 16, 154, and 75 feet, and the area 21 statute perches.

II. Under head c., query 18, I have given 230, which is merely the estimated population of the families within a circuit of half a mile of the site of the proposed school, whereas the population likely to avail of the school, if erected, cannot be less than 320.

III. Referring to query 26 in the report, I beg to append letters from the Presbyterian clergyman and Roman Catholic Administrator of the parish, and to state that the Protestant clergyman has been from home for some days, and that I expect to forward by Mondays' post a letter embodying his views on the subject.

I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *Michael Molony.*

The Secretaries, Education Office.

Enclosure 1, in No. 52.

My dear Sir,

North Road, Monaghan, 14 April 1877.

In reply to your inquiry about the proposed vested school, either in Beagharton or Rakeeragh, being built, I shall have much pleasure in giving religious instruction.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *J. A. Allison.*

M. Molony, Esq.,  
Inspector of National Schools.

Enclosure 2, in No. 52.

Dear Sir,

Monaghan, 14 April 1877.

In reply to your inquiry, as to whether, in event of Rev. L. J. O'Neill obtaining a grant from the Board of National Education in aid towards the building of a new school-house as a substitute for the old school house of Rakeeragh, from which he has been evicted, I shall be prepared to afford religious instruction to the Catholic pupils attending such school. I beg to say that I shall consider it one of my most important duties as Catholic Administrator of this parish regularly to impart careful religious instruction to all such children.

M. Molony, Esq., District Inspector.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *Richard Owens*, Administrator.

— No. 53. —

District Inspector to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh Building Application.—District 18.

Gentlemen,

Monaghan, 14 April 1877.

I enclose letters from Colonel Lloyd and Rev. Mr. Allison relative to this proposed school-house, and to express my opinion that their statements ought not to have much weight with the Commissioners in deciding the case.

Colonel Lloyd, in his letter, refers to the Rev. R. Owens as likely to support his views in the matter, but this gentleman, who is Roman Catholic Administrator of the parish, expresses himself strongly in favour of the proposed school; and the very slight interest as clergymen that the Rev. Mr. Stack, Rev. Mr. Allison, and Rev. Mr. Bodel, all of them Protestant clergymen, can have in the case will be manifest to the Commissioners, from the fact that when the Rakeeragh National School, which the proposed school is intended to replace, was closed last month, 79 out of the 80 pupils on the rolls were Roman Catholics, the remaining one being a Presbyterian.

As the case is attracting a good deal of attention in this neighbourhood, I feel it my duty to the Commissioners to offer one other remark upon it. It is certain that a national school is required in the locality to replace the old Rakeeragh national school, and it appears to me that an important point for the consideration of the Board in the matter is, which of the two contending parties will best represent the wishes, feelings, and educational interests of the parents of the 79 Roman Catholic children attending the old school. Colonel Lloyd, a Protestant gentleman, and the Protestant clergyman to whom he refers, or Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P., Rev. P. McGlone, C.C., and the most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Roman Catholic bishop of the diocese, who are the trustees for the proposed school.

The Secretaries,  
Education Office, Dublin.I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *M. Molony*, District Inspector.

Enclosures in No. 53.

Dear Sir,

Estate Office, Monaghan, 14 April 1877.

In reply to your letter just received, I have several objections to the Commissioners granting aid for the erection of a new school at Beaghbarton.

1st. There is sufficient school accommodation in that locality, and the Educational interests of the district do not require a new school.

2nd. An efficiently conducted national school is situate at the public road in Greaghglass, within less than a mile of Beaghbarton, and Rakeeragh is only distant about a quarter of a mile.

3rd. You are aware that the school at Rakeeragh is most central from other schools, and conveniently situated; it has been only closed for the past few weeks by the operation of law, being in a most dilapidated state, and not suited for the accommodation of children. You have been to the premises, and are aware that Lord Rossmore has had it repaired. The school will be re-opened on Tuesday next, for the education of all the children in the locality, and Lord Rossmore has secured the services of the former master and the assistant schoolmistress, who will take charge of it.

4th. I have sent in an application to have a vested school built on Lord Rossmore's estate in the townland of Tanderagee, within a few perches of Rakeeragh School, intending  
329. that

that the present school, as repaired, should only serve as a temporary accommodation until the intended new vested school in Tanderagee is ready for occupation.

5th. A reference to the clergymen who have their people in *this district*, viz., Archdeacon Stack, Rev. James A. Allison, Rev. James Bodel, or Rev. R. Owens, or other influential parties in the neighbourhood, will, *I feel satisfied*, bear out these statements.

I have to request that you will forward this communication to the Commissioners of National Education, and,

M. Molony, Esq.,  
District Inspector, Monaghan.

I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd.*

My dear Sir,

North-road, Monaghan, 14 April 1877.

REFERRING to our interview this morning, and having made further inquiry on the subject, I beg to add, that although I have stated that I shall give religious instruction, if the vested school for which applications have been made, be erected either in Beaghbarton or Rakeeragh, I do not consider it proper that the proposed school should be built at Beaghbarton, as it comes within a short distance of Greaghglass, and is removed a long way from the residences of the children it would be intended to benefit.

I therefore believe that the site of the old school, or near to it, would be the only place calculated to further the interests of education in the neighbourhood.

M. Molony, Esq.,  
Inspector of National Schools.

I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *J. A. Allison.*

Dear Sir,

Monaghan, 14 April 1877.

IN reply to your inquiry as to whether I have any objection that Father O'Neill should receive aid from the Board of National Education towards the erection of a new schoolhouse in Beaghbarton, to replace the old school-house at Rakeeragh.

I beg to say, that I have no objection to such grant being made; on the contrary, there is nothing which I more earnestly desire than that it be forthwith made, and the school-house speedily erected.

M. Molony, Esq., District Inspector. I have, &c.,  
(signed) *Richard Owens, Administrator.*

— No. 54. —

(7435—77.)

Rev. J. Bodel to the Commissioners of National Education.

Gentlemen,

The Manse, Monaghan, 14 April 1877.

You will do me the favour of presenting the enclosed communication to the Commissioners at their first meeting, and by so doing you will much oblige,

To the Secretaries, Education Office.

Yours, &c.,  
(signed) *James Bodel.*

Enclosure in No. 54.

To the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland.

Gentlemen,

The Manse, Monaghan, 14 April 1877.

AS I have been informed that application has been made to your Board to have a vested school established at Beaghbarton, and as I have had no opportunity of expressing any opinion on the matter through the local inspector, not having received any communication from him, although a number of the members of my congregation reside in the neighbourhood, I write to you directly to state that I object strongly to the opening of a school at Beaghbarton, because that there is a school at Greaghglass (a distance of about one mile from Beaghbarton), which is well conducted, and in which the people of the district have all confidence, and the opening of a new school so near at hand would be injurious to its interests.

I feel confident that, being made aware of this fact, the Commissioners will not sanction the establishment of a new school, which cannot serve any better purpose than proving a rival



rival and effecting an injury to a school which has been in existence for a long time, and which is now in efficient operation.

As to any necessity existing for the establishment of another school, there has been no recent increase in the population of the district, and there has not been any diminishing of school accommodation. Rakeeragh School, which occupies a much more central position in the district than Beaghbarton, has been temporarily repaired, and is now about to be reopened; and I understand that Lord Rossmore purposes, in case your sanction is obtained, to build a new-school house at Rakeeragh adjacent to the present site, as the old building is somewhat dilapidated.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *James Bodel*,  
Presbyterian Minister.

— No. 55. —

(7433—77.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh National School.

Gentlemen, Ballibay, 15 April 1877.  
In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, quoted above, I beg leave to say:—

1. Charles Kelly, the lunatic, was never married.

2. I am to be manager of the proposed school myself. The laymen whom I proposed as security in the bond is Mr. James McKenna, Market-street, Monaghan, tea merchant. Mr. McKenna is very well known here as being perfectly good security for anything up to 5,000*l.*, and consents to join me in the proposed bond. The parties, therefore, to the bond will be Most Rev. James Donnelly, Bishop of Clogher; Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P., Ballibay; and James McKenna, Market-street, Monaghan.

I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *L. J. O'Neill, P.P.*

The Secretaries, Education Office.

— No. 56. —

(Buildings, No. 46.)

Commissioners of Public Works to the Commissioners of National Education.

Office of Public Works, Dublin,  
16 April 1877.

Gentlemen,  
I AM directed by the Commissioners to return herewith the lease queries regarding the site proposed for the National School at Rakeeragh, in the county of Monaghan, together with the report of the clerk of works on the site in question, and an estimate of the cost of enclosing same, amounting to 36*l.*

The Secretaries,  
Office of National Education, Marlboro'-street.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *E. Hornsby.*

— No. 57. —

(4348—77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

TELEGRAM Received.

Monaghan, 16 April 1877.

From Col. Lloyd, Agency Office, Monaghan, to Wm. H. Newell, Esq., Secretary, National Education Office, Marlborough-street, Dublin.

Will Commissioners meet to-morrow, and, if so, will my applications relative to Rakeeragh and Tanderagee schools be then considered?

— No. 58. —

(7507—77.)

Mr. M. Dunwoody to the Commissioners of National Education

My Lords and Gentlemen,

As a resident in the locality, I take the liberty of forwarding the enclosed petition, emanating as it does from those of all denominations immediately surrounding Rakeeragh School. I hope the Commissioners, in discharge of the trusts reposed in them, will not overlook our claims to have a vested school established in Tanderagee, close to the site of the present old school at Rakeeragh, where, as has been the case for the last 40 years, the children of all denominations can be educated.

I attended the school when a boy myself, and intend sending my children there. My brother, one of the petitioners, had his children there last summer, and will have them there this summer also if school in operation. I am intimately acquainted with the district, and I can safely say that in the County Monaghan there is not a more clean, healthy, or desirable site for a school than where Lord Rossmore proposes to build in Tanderagee, close to the public road leading from Monaghan to Ballybay.

I have, &amp;c.,

(signed) *Moses Dunwoody,*  
Assistant Surveyor for Barony of Monaghan.

Enclosure in No. 58.

To the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland.

The Memorial of the undermentioned Residents in the Rakeeragh and Tanderagee Districts,

Humbly sheweth,

THAT for a great number of years past a school in connection with the national system of education has been in operation at Rakeeragh, where the children of all denominations have been instructed in secular education.

That it is, in the interest of education, important to the public generally, and particularly to us who reside in the district, that a school should be continued at Rakeeragh, where we could have our children educated according to the system of national education.

The place is most central and convenient, and the site healthy.

We therefore humbly pray that your honourable Board will be pleased to grant the necessary aid for the establishing of a vested school in Tanderagee at Rakeeragh, otherwise many of our children will be left without the means of education, being unable to travel a long distance.

(signed) *Moses Dunwoody,*  
County Surveyor's Assistant  
for Barony of Monaghan.

*Hugh Lochhart,*  
*Neal Hughes, Killivane.*

(And 43 other signatures.)

April 1877.

— No. 59. —

(7508—77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Sir,

Estate Office, Monaghan.

16 April 1877.

I now leave to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram and to thank you for your attention. I had a letter from the district inspector asking if I had any objection to a vested school being erected at Beaghbarton. I enclose you a copy of my reply, which I have to request that you will lay before the Commissioners at their meeting to-morrow.

I hope that the Commissioners, as the guardians of a public trust, will not sanction the erection of a new school in the district; Lord Rossmore has now so repaired Rakeeragh as to provide for the temporary accommodation of the children, and it would be a very great inconvenience to many respectable families in the country if a properly managed school in accordance with the rules of the Board is not maintained at Rakeeragh; and will you please also submit this letter to the Commissioners at their meeting to-morrow, and oblige,

Yours, &amp;c.

(signed) *Jesse Lloyd, Agent.*

Enclosure in No. 59.

Estate Office, Monaghan,  
14 April 1877.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter just received, I have important objections to the Commissioners granting aid for the erection of a vested school at Beaghbarton.

1st. There is sufficient school accommodation in that locality, and the educational interests of the district do not require a new school.

2nd. An efficiently conducted National School is situate at the public road in Greaghglass within less than a mile of Beaghbarton, and Rakeeragh is only distant about a quarter of a mile.

3rd. You are aware that the school at Rakeeragh is most central from all other schools, and is conveniently situated; it has been only closed for the past few weeks by the operation of law, being in a most dilapidated state, and not suited for the accommodation of children. You have been to the premises and are aware that Lord Rossmore has had it repaired. The school will be re-opened on Tuesday next for the education of the children in the locality, and Lord Rossmore has secured the services of the former master and the assistant schoolmistress, who will take charge of it.

4th. I have sent in an application to have a vested school built on Lord Rossmore's estate in the townland of Tanderagee, *within a few perches of Rakeeragh School*, intending that the present school as repaired should only serve as temporary accommodation until the intended new vested school in Tanderagee is ready for occupation.

5th. A reference to the clergymen who have their people in this district, viz., Archdeacon Stack, Rev. James A. Allison, Rev. James Bodel, Rev. R. Owens, or other influential parties in the neighbourhood, will, I feel satisfied, bear out these statements.

I have to request that you will forward this communication to the Commissioners of National Education,

M. Molony, Esq.,  
Mill-street, Monaghan.

And I remain, &c.,  
(signed) Jesse Lloyd.

— No. 60 —

(7511—77).

Rev. J. A. Allison to the Commissioners of National Education.

North-road, Monaghan,  
16 April 1877.

Gentlemen,

HAVING been referred to by Mr. Molony as to a vested school being built near Monaghan, at Beaghbarton, as I mentioned to the inspector, so also I beg to state to you that I believe Beaghbarton a most unsuitable place, far from the centre of the population where the children reside whom it is intended to benefit; I have many important families in the immediate neighbourhood of Rakeeragh, whose claims should be taken into consideration in your decision.

I also believe that it will be for the interests of the education of the whole neighbourhood that the school should be continued in efficiency at Rakeeragh.

The Commissioners of National Education,  
Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) Jas. A. Allison.

— No. 61. —

Commissioners of National Education to Mr. M. Dunwoody.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
17 April 1877.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (and Enclosure) of the 16th instant, and to state that, when the application referred to is brought before the Board, your communication will be submitted at the same time for consideration.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

Mr. M. Dunwoody,  
Leagh, Monaghan.

## CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO THE

— No. 62. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
17 April 1877.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to state that, when the Rev. Mr. O'Neill's application is brought before the Commissioners, your communication will also be submitted at the same time for their consideration.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

Col. J. Lloyd, J.P.,  
Monaghan.

— No. 63. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. J. A. Allison.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
17 April 1877.

Reverend Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to state that, when the Rev. Mr. O'Neill's application is brought before the Commissioners, your communication will be submitted at the same time for their consideration.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

Rev. J. A. Allison,  
Monaghan.

— No. 64. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. J. Bodel.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
17 April 1877.

Reverend Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th instant, and to state that, when the application referred to is submitted to the Board, your communication will at the same time be brought under consideration.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

Rev. J. Bodel,  
Monaghan.

— No. 65. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. B. Duffy.

582B.—Tattenclave National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
17 April 1877.

Reverend Sir,

I HAVE to inform you that the change of the above-named school from the former house to that in which it has been conducted since the 22nd ultimo is sanctioned.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

Rev. B. Duffy, P.P.,  
Newbliss.

— No. 66. —

Commissioners of National Education to the District Inspector.

5829.—Tattenclave National School.—District 18.

Sir,

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
17 April 1877.

I HAVE to inform you that the change of the above-named school from the former house to that in which it has been conducted since the 22nd ultimo is sanctioned.

M. Molony, Esq.,  
District Inspector 18.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan*,  
Secretary.

— No. 67. —

Commissioners of National Education to the District Inspector.

7963.—Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Sir,

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
17 April 1877.

ADVERTING to my letter of the 12th instant, I have to inform you that your reply, giving the whole circumstances of the case therein referred to, must be received in this office not later than Friday morning, the 20th instant.

M. Molony, Esq.,  
District Inspector 18.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan*,  
Secretary.

— No. 68. —

*E. Richardson*, Esq., to the Commissioners of National Education.

(7639-77.)

Gentlemen,

Glenhorne, Rockcorry, 19 April 1877.

Being obliged to attend at Monaghan Quarter Sessions yesterday, I there heard that an application had been sent in to have a vested school built at Beaghbarton. I had no opportunity of expressing any opinion on the subject, but as agent for the Earl of Dartrey, and Manager of Greaghglass National School, I think it my duty to inform you that I do not consider a new school is required at Beaghbarton. Greaghglass is capable of accommodating a great many more children, and it is situated a very short distance from the townland of Beaghbarton; in fact, I may say, a narrow townland only lies between Greaghglass National School and Beaghbarton.

The Secretaries, Board of National Education,  
Marlborough Street, Dublin.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *Edw. Richardson*.

— No. 69. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel *Lloyd*.

7963.—Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Sir,

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
19 April 1877.

I HAD the honour of submitting your letter of the 14th instant to the Commissioners at their meeting on the 17th instant.

They have directed me to inform you that the district inspector was called upon not merely to state if the Rakeeragh National School is closed, but also to report if the  
329. manager

## CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO THE

manager has taken any steps to provide accommodation for the children who attended it and to furnish other particulars of information.

As the Commissioners have not yet received the inspector's report they must reserve their decision.

Col. J. Lloyd, J.P.,  
Monaghan.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *Wm. H. Newell*,  
Secretary.

— No. 70. —

District Inspector to the Commissioners of National Education.

7963.—Rakeeragh National School, County Monaghan.—District 18—46.

Gentlemen,

Ramelton, County Donegal,  
19 April 1877.

REFERRING to your letter of 12th instant, relative to this school, I beg to state that it ceased operation on 12th March last. Under the auspices of Colonel Lloyd a school was opened in the same house on Tuesday, 17th instant, and placed in charge of Mr. Thomas Corr and Miss Susan Mohan, the teachers who conducted the Rakeeragh National School.

On Tuesday last the 17th instant, I had an interview with the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P., manager of the Rakeeragh National School, who, in reply to my inquiry, made to me the following statement: "There does exist a sufficient provision for the education of the children of the Rakeeragh School District, inasmuch as with my permission the same teachers, male and female, still continue as formerly to conduct the Rakeeragh School, and will continue to do so until the new school-house shall have been completed."

I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *Michael Molony*.

The Secretaries,  
Education Office, Dublin.

— No. 71. —

(L. 7639—77).

Commissioners of National Education to *E. Richardson*, Esq.  
Beaghbarton School.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
20 April 1877.

Sir,  
I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, and to state that, when the application in question comes before the Commissioners, your communication will also be brought under their consideration.

*E. Richardson*, Esq.,  
Glenburne, Rockcorry.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *J. E. Sheridan*, Secretary.

— No. 72. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. *L. J. O'Neill*.  
Rakeeragh Proposed School.

Reverend Sir,

Education Office, 20 April 1877.

REFERRING to your application for aid to build the above-named proposed school, I am to inform you that the clerk of works reports that the proposed site is one which he could not recommend the Commissioners to accept, unless indeed it can be shown beyond doubt that a better site cannot be procured.

I am to request you will be good enough to state whether you can procure a more eligible site.

Rev. *L. J. O'Neill*, P.P.,  
Ballihay, County Monaghan.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan*, Secretary.

— No. 73. —

(7748—77.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh National School (proposed).

Ballibay, County Monaghan,  
22 April 1877.

Gentlemen,

In reply to your letter of the 26th instant, informing me that the clerk of works had reported unfavourably of the site of the proposed National School of Rakeeragh, and asking whether I can procure a more eligible site, I beg leave to state that the only owner of property in the neighbourhood who would consent to give us a site is Mrs. Catherine Leary, and that the site proposed by us, however unfavourable, is the most eligible on her property.

I regret that I misapprehended the meaning of the anxiety which the Commissioners had for the temporary accommodation for the children of the district, pending the erection of the new school-house. I thought it made no matter now, where, or by whom that accommodation was provided. And hearing that Colonel Lloyd was about to open a school on the old premises, and was anxious to employ the former teachers, I placed no obstacle in the way of those teachers taking employment under Colonel Lloyd. They would thus secure their salaries, and I knew I would have their services at any time I needed them. Seeing that this might be interpreted as an approval on my part of Colonel Lloyd's school, I have directed the teachers to withdraw from that gentleman's service, and they have done so.

It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to procure temporary accommodation for the pupils attending Rakeeragh School, such is the state of abject terror to which the tenants on the Rossmore Estate and the adjoining estate of Lord Dartrey have been reduced. I trust that the Commissioners will not regard the want of temporary accommodation, arising from such a cause, as a sufficient reason for striking off the old Rakeeragh School from their rolls.

I may here refer to a petition in favour of Colonel Lloyd's school, which was presented for signature to the tenants on the Rossmore estate, and which some of them were induced to sign. This petition was carried about by a Mr. Moses Dunwoody, a road inspector, who was well known to be acting in the matter as the instrument of Colonel Lloyd. This was made perfectly plain by the fact that he was accompanied by Mr. W. Greacen, the bailiff of the Rossmore estate.

Praying that the state of painful suspense in which I am placed may be speedily brought to an end by the vesting of a building grant for the new school,

I have, &c.  
(signed) L. J. O'Neill, P.P.

The Secretaries, Office of National Education,  
Marlborough-street, Dublin.

— No. 74. —

(4716—77.)

Rev. R. Owens to the Commissioners of National Education.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Monaghan, 23 April 1877.

I HAVE heard to my amazement a rumour in this town that Colonel Lloyd has represented me to the Commissioners as favourable to his project of re-opening, under his own auspices, the old Rakeeragh National School, and as opposed to the intended new school, towards which the Rev. L. J. O'Neill has asked a building grant. If such a representation has been made, I can only designate it as a base and treacherous falsehood, utterly devoid of the least semblance of truth, and, when taken into connection with the fact that I am the Catholic administrator of this parish, a gross calumny. I have all along advocated and given the most strenuous opposition to what I could not fail to regard as a most audacious and unjustifiable proceeding on the part of Colonel Lloyd, his attempt, namely, to seize on the control of an exclusively Catholic school, which has been under the sole guidance of the Catholic clergy for upwards of the last 50 years. What my conduct shall be in the future in relation to these two schools is distinctly explained in my replies of the 14th instant to your district inspector, copies of which, I presume, he has forwarded to your office; that whilst employing my persuasion and authority as Catholic administrator of this parish to empty Colonel Lloyd's school of Catholic children, I shall earnestly co-operate with the Rev. Mr. O'Neill towards the maintenance and prosperity of the school of which he is manager.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) Richard Owens,  
Administrator.

To the Commissioners of National Education.

— No. 75. —

(4840—77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

*Re Rakeeragh and Tanderagee Schools.*

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
26 April 1877.

Sirs,  
I SHALL thank you to let me know by return has your Board given any decision regarding the foregoing.

The Secretaries, National Education,  
Marlborough-street, Dublin.

I remain, &c.  
(signed) *Jerre Lloyd,*

— No. 76. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

7963. Rakeeragh National School.—Tanderagee Building Application.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
27 April 1877.

Sir,  
WITH reference to your letter of the 26th instant, I have to inform you that the above-named cases are under consideration, and that the Commissioners have not yet arrived at any decision regarding them.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan,*  
Secretary.

Colonel J. Lloyd, J.P., Monaghan.

— No. 77. —

(4870—77.)

Colonel Lloyd to Commissioners of National Education.

*Re Rakeeragh National School.*

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
27 April 1877.

Sirs,  
REFERRING to the above-mentioned school, I beg to inform you that since the landlord resumed possession the building has undergone extensive repairs, and is now what it has not been for years past, suitable for a school-house.

It was re-opened 10 days ago, under the supervision of the master and mistress, who were teaching in it at the time of the eviction, and with a fair average attendance, considering this being the season for spring operations.

I was informed on Monday last, by the Roman Catholic tenantry of the estate, that the bishop of the diocese, the Right Rev. Dr. Donnelly, and his clergy who officiate in this parish, on Sunday last denounced Lord Rossmore and myself in the chapel, and warned their parishioners not to send their children to said school, and also sent a message to the master, who happened not to be in attendance, to desist teaching. On the following day (Monday), he, the master, had an interview with said clergymen, when they threatened him with excommunication if he continued in Lord Rossmore's service, and he, fearing lest this threat would be put in execution, immediately after left the key of the school at my office, and made the foregoing statement as his reason for doing so, and expressed his regret at being compelled to adopt such a course; with regard to the mistress, I have not seen her since this occurrence, as she left without giving the least notice.

I hope the Commissioners, as the guardians of a public trust, will take all matters into consideration before arriving at any conclusion, and that they will not sanction such unwarrantable coercion, making the education in one respect purely denominational, and entailing much inconvenience to the children of many respectable farmers of all denominations in the neighbourhood of Rakeeragh and Tanderagee.

If the tenantry were not anxious for the continuance of this school, Lord Rossmore would not trouble himself in the least, but they are, and to show forth their wish, I am informed, a petition has been forwarded by them to your Board in favour of its re-establishment.

Since



Since Monday last I have been fortunate enough to procure the services of another master, and the attendance at the school is every day gradually increasing; to-day there were 22 present, consisting of all persuasions.

The Secretaries, National Education,  
Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd*,  
Agent.

— No. 78. —

(4872—77.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh National School.

Gentlemen,

Ballisay, Co. Monaghan, 27 April 1877.

THE harsh proceedings of Colonel Lloyd, and the difficulties with which, in consequence of them, I found myself suddenly beset, prevented me for a time from discovering a practical means of continuing my Rakeeragh School. The prospect of being deprived of a school which has seen half a century of usefulness, is a sad one for the people and me. But if we are forced to part with the *fiat* we are at least entitled to retain the school. I trust that no landlord influence will be permitted to deprive us of that.

I respectfully and earnestly ask the Board:

Firstly. To accede to my request for a building grant.

Secondly. To sanction, pending the erection of my new school-house, the continuance of the Rakeeragh School in a temporary wooden house, which I shall erect in a few days, adjoining the site of the proposed new school. I send you a plan of the temporary house, and you will acknowledge, I am sure, that it is as suitable for the purpose as could be desired. The materials have been ordered of the Messrs. Martin, North Wall, Dublin, and are expected to reach here on to-morrow; I am confident I shall have the house ready for the reception of pupils on the 1st May.

I desire to repeat once more, for the information of the Board, that the site which I have offered, though not so perfect as might be desired, is fairly suitable, and is the only one which I have been able to procure.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *L. J. O'Neill*, P.P.

— No. 79. —

(4888—77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Re Rakeeragh National School.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,

28 April 1877.

Sirs,

I AM in receipt of yours of 27th instant relative to this school, and am very much surprised at its contents. Six weeks have elapsed since I first notified to you the resumption of possession by the landlord, and the discontinuance of school, and requested you to strike the name off your books. As yet no decision has been given; there is certainly procrastination somewhere, either with your Board or district inspector in this town, for I also apprised him of the closing on the date of the occurrence.

On the 25th instant I wrote you for a copy of the manager's letter to your Board relative to the eviction, which I have not received, nor even a reply to that part of my letter.

I shall thank you to let me have said document at your earliest convenience, as without such it is impossible for Lord Rossmore to have the matter made a subject of a Parliamentary inquiry.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd*, Agent.

The Secretaries, National Education, Dublin.

— No. 80. —

(4848—77.)

Rev. B. Duffy to the Commissioners of National Education.

Gentlemen,

Newbliss, Aughalvey, 29 April 1877.

I beg to remind you that the salary due Mr. Farmer, teacher of Drumgarley National School, Roll No. 1115, as yet did not come to hand, though it is under my management and patronage. No change as to it yet.

The Secretaries, Education Office.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *B. Duffy*, P.P.

— No. 81. —

District No. 18.

Notified to district inspector, 28 March 1877.

Report received, 2 May 1877.

Decided upon by Board, 29 May 1877.

REPORT upon Application for Aid towards Building a SCHOOL-HOUSE, in County of Monaghan.

Name of proposed School, Tanderagee. Name of Correspondent, Colonel Lloyd.  
Religious Denomination, E.C. Post Town, Monaghan.

Post Town, nearest site, Monaghan. Distance from site, 2½ miles. On road from Monaghan to Ballybay.

1. Where is the site of the proposed school-house?

In what townland? - - - -

In what parish? - - - -

In what barony? - - - -

2. If in a town or village, give its name, and state the amount of its population?

3. If in the country, state the number of dwellings or of families within a circuit of half a mile of proposed site.

4. State the extent of the site, and its dimensions.

5. Is it in a healthy situation? - - -

6. Is it to be inclosed, and how? - - -

7. Is there any, and what extent of ground for agricultural purposes?

8. Is it a portion of church, chapel, or meeting-house yard?

9. Is it contiguous to or near any? - -

10. Is it in connexion with any religious establishment?

11. If so, has inquiry been made to procure any other site, and what has been the result of the inquiry?

12. How are you satisfied that such inquiry has been made?

13. Who are the proprietors of the land and tenements in the locality?

14. What is the name and distance of the nearest post town, and in what direction?

15. State the christian and surname and residence of the person making a lease of the site, and what title he has to the ground.

16. For what length of time does the grantor agree to give the lease?

17. Is the ground liable to any, and what rent?

18. What number of children may be expected to attend the school, distinguishing males and females, and what is the population of the parish, distinguishing that portion of it likely to need such a school?

In a field adjoining public road.

Tanderagee.

Monaghan.

Monaghan.

—

About forty.

One half a statute acre; 60 by 40½ yards.

Yes.

Yes, by a wall.

None at present; there may be should the house be built.

No.

No.

No.

—

—

Lord Rossmore.

Monaghan, 2½ miles north.

Lord Rossmore; he holds it in fee.

61 years.

—

Expected number on rolls: males, 48; females, 32—Total 80.

Average daily attendance, males, 29; females, 18—Total 47. Numbers which represent the attendance in the former national school.

(b.) Population of parish, 3,243, including that of town, 3,632.

(c.) Population of the portion of parish likely to need the proposed school, 200, but it is far from certain that they will avail of the school.

19. State the number of the plan of school-house which you consider most suitable for this locality.

20. What amount of local subscription has been raised, or is likely to be raised towards the erection of the house?

21. Upon what grounds or information do you base your answer to the last query?

22. Does a necessity exist for the building of a new school-house here? Give the reasons for your opinion fully and explicitly.

O'Neill, v.p., Manager of the Rakeeragh National School, and applicant in the Rakeeragh building case, are strongly opposed to the success of this application, and express their determination to use every legitimate influence to prevent the Catholic children from attending the school should the house be erected. In these circumstances, I fear, the school, if brought into operation, will prove a failure.

23. State the names and circumstances of such national schools as are in the neighbourhood within a circuit of three miles, the average number of children attending them, and whether vested, or not vested, and their respective distances from the proposed site.

24. State the names of all other schools for the poor within similar limits, and their general circumstances, so far as you can ascertain them.

25. State the precise distance of the site of the proposed schools from the site of any other Applicant Schools, whether for aid towards building, or for salary and books, distinguishing each.

26. Have you consulted the clergymen of the different denominations as to making any arrangement for giving religious instruction in the proposed school?

27. Have you presented to the parties concerned in this application a copy of the proper lease?

28. Are they willing that such lease shall be executed?

29. Have you had an interview with the patron or local manager of the school?

30. If the proposed manager be a layman, state his profession, business, or occupation.

31. With what other individuals have you communicated personally on the subject, and what has been the result of your interview?

32. Is it intended that the premises shall be vested in the Commissioners in their corporate capacity, or in Trustees?

33. If it is proposed to vest the site in trustees, state the name, residence, profession or occupation, and religious denomination, of each of them.

Two.

The applicant promises to contribute on the part of Lord Rossmore a third of the entire expenditure.

The statement of Colonel Lloyd.

In my opinion there does not, and in support of this opinion I beg to refer to reply under query 35 in this report. The most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, his curates in the parish, and the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, v.p., Manager of the Rakeeragh National School, and applicant in the Rakeeragh building case, are strongly opposed to the success of this application, and express their determination to use every legitimate influence to prevent the Catholic children from attending the school should the house be erected. In these circumstances, I fear, the school, if brought into operation, will prove a failure.

School.	Vested or Non-vested.	Distance.	Average Attendance.
		Miles.	
1. Drumscrutia - -	Not - -	1½	27
2. Corran - - -	Not - -	1½	33
3. Tappa - - -	Vested in Trustees.	2½	66
4. Geaghglass - -	Not - -	1½	29
5. Lisletrim - - -	Not - -	1½	37
6. Brucklee - - -	Not - -	2½	45
7. Aghaaglass - -	Not - -	2½	32
8. Monaghan Convent -	Not - -	2½	104
9. Monaghan Model -	Vested in Board.	2½	216

A large school under Christian Brothers in town of Monaghan, about 2½ miles distant; it is attended exclusively by Roman Catholics, and has the reputation of being well conducted.

The Rakeeragh building applicant case is only five-eighths of a mile distant.

Yes. The Venerable Archdeacon Stack and Rev. Mr. Allison, Protestant and Presbyterian clergymen, who express themselves favourably to the success of this application, promise to attend and give religious instruction if necessary.

In regard to the Roman Catholic clergy, I beg to direct attention to the appended note from Rev. R. Owens, c.c.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

A gentleman, colonel in the militia, land agent, and Clerk of the Peace for county Monaghan.

Most Reverend Dr. Donnelly, Catholic Bishop; Rev. R. Owens, c.c., and Rev. P. McGlone, c.c., Monaghan; the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, v.p.; Ven. Archdeacon Stack, and Rev. J. Allison. For their views see Replies to queries 23 and 26 in this Report.

In trustees.

Captain Thomas Coote, Monaghan, a gentleman of property in the neighbourhood; and Wm. Mitchell, Esq., land agent and sub-sheriff for county Monaghan. Both are members of the late Established Church.

34. Have you ascertained whether they are willing to undertake the office, and whether, from their circumstances and position, you can recommend them as being eligible for the proposed trust?

35. State any other circumstances connected with this application which you may consider material for the information of the Commissioners, and the grounds upon which you recommend that it should be entertained, or otherwise.

Yes.

There are now before the Board two applicant building cases in this locality, each intended to replace the Rakeeragh National School, which ceased operation on 12th March last. One school is required; the two cannot co-exist. When the Rakeeragh National School was closed there were

on the rolls 80 pupils, 70 Catholics and 1 Protestant; and believing that the manager, Rev. J. L. O'Neill, applicant in the Rakeeragh building case, virtually and in reality represents the educational feelings and interests of the parents of these 79 pupils, I have recommended that grants should be made to his school, and I must therefore decline the responsibility of recommending a grant in this case. Besides, if this house should be erected, and the school brought into operation, there are no just grounds for believing that it would command a sufficient average attendance; in my opinion, the Catholics in the locality will not send their children to this school in opposition to the wishes and determination of their bishop and priests, and, as already stated, the Rakeeragh National School, on which the site of the proposed school abuts, had when closed only one Protestant child on the rolls.

36. State the date of your visit - - - | 11th day of April 1877.

(signed) *Michael Molony*,  
District Inspector of National Schools.

Rev. R. Owens to the District Inspector.

Dear Sir,

Mounaghan, 14 April 1877.

In reply to your inquiry as to whether, in the event of Colonel Lloyd obtaining a grant in aid towards building a school-house at Rakeeragh, I shall afford religious instruction to the Catholic pupils attending such school, I beg to say that I shall not do so. Colonel Lloyd has seized on the old school-house of Rakeeragh, built by the priests and people of the district over 50 years ago. He has closed this exclusively Catholic school, which has been hitherto under the control of the Catholic clergy. I shall not contribute in any way to make his new school acceptable to the Catholic people; on the contrary, as Catholic Administrator of this parish, I shall use my persuasion and authority to keep all Catholic pupils out of it, and I trust the Commissioners of National Education will take note of this, and decline to expend the public money on a useless project merely to gratify the spleen of Colonel Lloyd.

M. Molony, Esq., District Inspector.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Richard Owens*,  
Administrator.

— No. 82. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. B. Duffy.

1115. Drumgarley National School.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
8 May 1877.

Rev. Sir,

We are to inform you that the salary to the teacher of the above-named school, for March quarter 1877, is in course of payment, and that the amount will be remitted in a few days.

We are, &c.  
(signed) *Wm. H. Newell*, } Secretaries.  
*John E. Sheridan*, }

Rev. B. Duffy, p.p., Newbliss.

— No. 83. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

7963. Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
3 May 1877.

Sir,

I HAVE to inform you that the Commissioners of National Education had under consideration at their meeting on the 1st instant the circumstances of the above-named school. The Commissioners direct me to communicate to you the subjoined extract from a letter, dated 27th April 1877, from the manager, the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P., and to inform you that the district inspector has been instructed to report as to the suitability of the temporary school-house proposed by the reverend gentleman. The Commissioners have decided to retain the Rakeeragh School on their rolls pending the receipt of the inspector's report on the temporary house.

## EXTRACT.

"I respectfully and earnestly ask the Board to sanction, pending the erection of my new school-house, the continuance of the Rakeeragh School in a temporary wooden house, which I shall erect in a few days adjoining the site of the proposed new school. I send you a plan of the temporary house, and you will acknowledge, I am sure, that it is as suitable for the purpose as could be desired.

"The materials have been ordered of the Messrs. Martin, North Wall, Dublin, and are expected to reach here on to-morrow."

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

Col. J. Lloyd, J.P., Monaghan.

— No. 84. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. L. J. O'Neill.

7963. Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
3 May 1877.

Reverend Sir,

As you have intimated in your letter of the 27th ultimo that you are erecting a temporary wooden school-house, to which you intend to transfer, within a few days, the Rakeeragh School, and have asked the sanction of the Board for the transfer, I have to inform you that the Commissioners, at their meeting on the 1st instant, ordered that the district inspector be instructed to report as to the suitability of the temporary house, and the number of pupils attending, and that the consideration of your application for a building grant be postponed until the inspector's report on the temporary house shall have been received.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P.,  
Ballybay.

— No. 85. —

Commissioners of National Education to District Inspector.

7963. Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
3 May 1877.

Sir,

As the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P., has, in a letter dated the 27th April 1877, intimated that he is erecting a temporary wooden school-house, to which he intends to transfer, within a few days, the Rakeeragh School, and asks the sanction of the Board for the transfer, the Commissioners have directed me to instruct you to report as to the suitability of the temporary house, and the number of pupils attending it.

The Commissioners have postponed the consideration of the Rev. Mr. O'Neill's application for a building grant until your report on the temporary house shall have been received.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

M. Molony, Esq.,  
District Inspector, 18.

(8328—77.)

Most Rev. J. Donnelly to the Commissioners of National Education.

Bishop's Residence, Monaghan,  
7 May 1877.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

SMITH the efforts that are being made by a local nobleman and proprietor to seize upon the education of our Catholic youth, and how zealously he is seconded in these efforts by the Protestant and Presbyterian clergy and people here, as well as by the neighbouring landlords and land agents, I am reluctantly forced to break silence, and to add my humble petition to those of my clergy and people.

I pray, then, that the management of Rakeeragh National School in this parish be continued in the hands of the Catholic clergy. First, because that school has been under the control of our clergy here for over half a century, and has been managed by them as a national school from the first establishment of the national system; many years, in fact, before any one of the schools now in this town or for several miles around it had existence; secondly, because the pupils attending the old Rakeeragh School were all of them Catholics; the Protestant and Presbyterian children of the district being in attendance at the three national schools of Corneem, Greaghglass, and Drumacrauten, which lie around Rakeeragh, within a distance of from one to two miles, and which were got up in latter years under Protestant and Presbyterian management; thirdly, because Rakeeragh School was always conducted by the Catholic clergy in strict accordance with the rules of the National Board, and conducted most efficiently, far more so than any of the schools around it, as the records of the Board will testify.

On the other hand, I respectfully ask what claim Lord Rossmore and Colonel Lloyd have to the management of this school? Is it because they have taken possession of the old school-house of Rakeeragh, towards which they never contributed one farthing, that house having been erected by the clergy and people over 20 years before the townland of Rakeeragh became the property of Lord Rossmore? Is it because a portion, and only a portion, of the pupils live on Lord Rossmore's estate? Now the right of landlords, as such, to control the education of their tenants has never been recognised by the National Board. Is it because Lord Rossmore, who till a few years ago was opposed to the national system, has latterly taken it up, and has suddenly resolved that he must have exclusively the control of education on his estate?

Is it because our Protestant and Presbyterian neighbours, amply provided with schools of their own choice, have expressed their desire that this school should be handed over to Lord Rossmore, whilst we would feel ashamed to offer such a suggestion in reference to one of their schools?

Within the last 10 years or so I have expended between three and four thousand pounds on schools in this parish. Lord Rossmore is the landlord of two-thirds of the rateable property of the parish, and what has he ever done for the promotion of education amongst us?

I must not conceal from you, my Lords and Gentlemen, that a violent and most regrettable struggle about the management of schools has been inaugurated in this county by Lord Rossmore and Colonel Lloyd, and that other landlords avow their determination to follow it up on their estates, after they shall have seen the issue of this contest between us and Lord Rossmore. In fact, I do not hesitate to say that the principles and the very existence of the national system in this neighbourhood are at stake in the present struggle.

I pray, therefore, my Lords and Gentlemen, that Rakeeragh School be continued under the management of the Catholic clergy, and that as speedily as possible you be pleased to grant the usual aid towards building, on the site proposed by us, a new school-house, to take the place of those venerable walls from which we have been evicted by Lord Rossmore.

The Commissioners of  
National Education, Ireland.I remain, &c.  
(signed) *James Donnelly*,  
Roman Catholic Bishop of Clogher.

(8331—77.)

Rev. R. Owens and Others to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeeragh National School, Monaghan,  
7 May 1877.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WE have heard with surprise that Protestant and Presbyterian clergymen and others have been declaring to your Board their desire that Rakeeragh School should be taken from under the management of the Rev. L. J. O'Neill and handed over to Colonel Lloyd. We are unable to conceive what interest those gentlemen can have in the question, as the school has not been attended for years past except by Catholics. When the school-house was taken

taken possession of by the landlord, on the 13th last March, the number on the rolls was 80, and of these 79 were Catholics.

In consequence of the action of these gentlemen, we think it our duty to respectfully state, for the information of the Board, our views upon the subject.

It may be convenient at the very outset to bring to your recollection the origin of the controversy which has unhappily arisen with respect to this school. That controversy has not been of our seeking. The school was managed from the period of its first connection with the National Board in 1833 by the Catholic clergy of this parish to the entire satisfaction of all parties. The rules of the Commissioners were rigidly adhered to. The services of efficient teachers were at all times secured. The building was kept, so far as the circumstances of the parish would permit, in decent repair. And we submit that the school has on the whole done good work in the cause of the education of the people, and would be still doing good work but for the unjustifiable interference of the landlord and his agent. Towards the close of the year 1874, Colonel Lloyd, the land agent of Lord Rossmore, on whose property the school-house was situate, declared war against the school, and sent round the halliif among the tenants forbidding them to send their children to it any longer.

That prohibition was very properly disregarded by the people, and immediately afterwards a number of them were served with notice to give up their bog.

Even in the face of such a penalty as this the great majority of the people continued to send their children to the school up to March last, when the manager, the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, was evicted from it. It has been stated on behalf of Colonel Lloyd, that his reason for evicting the manager from the school was because he had allowed it to go out of repair. That cannot have been his reason for commanding the children to withdraw from it in 1874, as the withdrawal of the children could not in any way affect the material condition of the house. Besides, Colonel Lloyd was repeatedly asked, whilst the notice to quit and the ejectment proceedings were pending, to allow the manager to repair the house and continue in possession of it as before, and the permission was as often refused.

Since the re-opening of the old building under the auspices of Colonel Lloyd, in the early part of last month, there has been a daily attendance of from 20 to 30 children, all of them, except three or four, being Protestants. That attendance, we submit to the Board, is entirely fictitious. The pupils attending it are not those who in the ordinary course of things would seek instruction there, but they have been drafted in from Greagbglass, Drunacatten, and Cormeen National Schools for the purpose of creating such an attendance, or appearance of an attendance, as would warrant the Commissioners in giving a grant of salary to the teacher. On this point we charge contradiction, and, if you think proper, an investigation. We have been accused of denouncing the school from the altars of our churches, and forbidding our people, under severe spiritual penalties, to send their children to it. That statement is altogether untrue. We have not denounced the school, nor have we pronounced any penalty whatever upon those who should send their children to it. But we have told our people, and shall continue to tell them, what we conceive to be our duty, having regard to the altered circumstances of the school. And we entertain no shadow of a doubt that the permanent effect of our admonitions will be that the Catholics of the district will decline to send their children there so long as it remains under the control of Colonel Lloyd. And when we inform you that the district is almost exclusively Catholic, you will be able to form an opinion as to the prospects of the school under his administration.

If a school-house be erected there by the aid of the Board and under the management of the landlord or agent, we hereby express our determination not to give any religious instruction therein, or to countenance it in any way; but on the contrary, we shall employ every legitimate effort to prevent our people from attending it. And we are confident our efforts will be crowned with complete success.

We therefore pray that you will not band over the management of this school to the landlord, but continue it to the present manager, the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, and that you will give a grant in aid for building a new school-house on the proposed site in Beagharton.

We have, &c.  
(signed) *Richard Owens*, Administrator, Monaghan.  
*Peter M'Glone*, c.c., Monaghan.  
*Michael Martin*, c.c., Monaghan.

Catholic clergymen of the parish of Monaghan.

— No. 88. —

(8333—77.)

PETITION of *T. Corr* and Others.

To the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland.

The Petition of the undersigned Tenant Farmers and Others, Householdors residing in the immediate neighbourhood of Rakeeragh, humbly sheweth,

THAT our children were in attendance at Rakeeragh School up to the time the premises were seized upon by the landlord, said school having been under the control of the Catholic clergy for over 50 years, long before the establishment of the national system.

That the said school has been attended in late years by Catholic children alone, our neighbours of other denominations sending their children to Greaghglass, Dramacrutien, and Carmeen schools, which are under Protestant and Presbyterian managers and teachers.

That we wish said school to remain as heretofore under the control of our clergy, and do not wish it to be handed over to any landlord, or agent, or bailiff, in whom we have no confidence.

That we hear that a site for a new school, which is to be under the management of the Catholic clergy, has been obtained in the townland of Beaghbarton, and we pray the Commissioners to extend their favour to it, and to grant the usual aid towards building it as speedily as possible.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray,

(signed) *John McCourt.*  
*Ellen McCabe.*  
*Peter Creighton.*  
 (And 66 other signatures.)

PETTY SESSIONS (IRELAND) ACT, 1851, 14 & 15 Vict. c. 83.

SOLEMN DECLARATION.

Petty Sessions District of Monaghan, County of Monaghan.

I, THOMAS CORR, of Ardaghay, in said county, national teacher, do solemnly and sincerely declare that 63 out of the 69 signatures to the annexed Petition were written in my presence, either by the parties themselves or by another person in their presence and by their direction, and I make this solemn declaration, conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an Act passed in the sixth year of the reign of his late Majesty William the 4th, c. 83, for the abolition of unnecessary oaths.

(signed) *Thomas Corr.*

Made and subscribed before me, this 7th day of May 1877.

(signed) *William Murray,*  
 Justice of said County.

— No. 99 —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. B. Duffy.

5829. Tattenclave National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
 10 May 1877.

Reverend Sir,

I HAVE to refer you to the letter sent you from this office on the 17th ultimo, sanctioning the present Tattenclave school-house, and to inform you that, through inadvertence, it was omitted to be stated in that letter that the present house is sanctioned only temporarily.

I have, therefore, to beg you to understand that the house is sanctioned only as a temporary school-house, pending the erection of a permanent one, for which the district inspector reports that you have obtained a site.

Rev. B. Duffy, P.P., Newbliss.

I am, &c.,  
 (signed) *John E. Sheridan,*  
 Secretary.



— No. 90. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

7863. Rakeebagh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
10 May 1877.

Sir,

I SUBMITTED to the Board, at its meeting on the 8th instant, your letters of the 6th and 28th April, in which you request to be furnished with a copy of a certain communication addressed to this office by the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P., manager of Rakeebagh National School, in reference to his eviction by Lord Rossmore from the Rakeebagh school-house, and I am directed to inform you that, as the Commissioners consider the communication referred to as confidential, they cannot accede to your request.

I am, &amp;c.,

Colonel J. Lloyd, J.P., Monaghan.

(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

— No. 91. —

(5224—77.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeebagh National School, County Monaghan.

Gentlemen,

Ballibay, 14 May 1877.

I AM happy to be able to inform you that I have now provided accommodation for the children formerly attending Rakeebagh School. A wooden house 24 feet by 18 feet, furnished with all the necessary appliances of a national school, and in every respect most commodious, has been erected close to the site of the proposed new school-house in the townland of Beaghbarrow, and was this morning opened for the reception of pupils. The house would have been ready much sooner but that the materials were delayed on their way from Dublin by the railway company.

I have not as yet been able to visit the school in person, but the Rev. R. Owens, Adm., and the Rev. P. McGloce, C.C., Monaghan, visited it to-day by my direction, and report to me as follows: They found, at 11 a.m., 61 pupils in attendance. Of these 37 were on the rolls of the school on the 18th of last March, when the old premises were taken possession of by Lord Rossmore, and 12 others had been formerly pupils of the school, though not on the rolls at the date mentioned.

The clergymen above named also report to me that they this day visited the old house in which the school was formerly taught, and which is now in Lord Rossmore's possession, and that they found 28 pupils in attendance, of whom not more than eight were in the habit of attending whilst the school house was in my possession. The remaining 20 have been brought there from the adjoining schools, and would never have gone there of their own accord.

In these circumstances, a temporary house having been erected for the accommodation of the pupils, and there being a prospect of a good attendance, I would again earnestly entreat the Commissioners to give me, without further delay, a grant-in-aid for the erection of a new and permanent school-house.

I have, &amp;c.,

(signed) L. J. O'Neill, P.P.

— No. 92. —

(5222—77.)

Rev. R. Owens, &amp;c., to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rakeebagh National School, County Monaghan.

Gentlemen,

Monaghan, 14 May 1877.

By direction of the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, who was unable to attend in person, we this day visited the temporary house, which he has constructed in the townland of Beaghbarrow for the accommodation of the pupils of the Rakeebagh National School, pending the erection of a new school-house. The temporary house appeared to us admirably suited for the purpose it is intended to serve. It is built of wood which has been thoroughly seasoned, and is roofed with felt. The materials have all been obtained of the Messrs. Martin, of the North

Wall, Dublin. The Commissioners can have no better guarantee that they are of superior quality. The house is 24 feet long by 18 feet wide, is well lighted, and is provided in the interior with desks, forms, and all the other requisites of a national school. The number of pupils present at the time of our visit was 61. We were present when the rolls were being marked, and observed that of the number who were on the rolls of the school on the 13th of last March, 37 answered to their names. We also found on inquiry that 12 others had been pupils of Rakeeragh school within the last 12 months, though not on the rolls at the time the school was closed in March last.

We also visited to-day the old school-house which is now in the hands of the landlord, Lord Rossmore. There were only 28 pupils present. We know of our own knowledge that not more than eight of those present were on the roll of Rakeeragh School when it was seized upon by the landlord on the 13th of last March, and that most of the remaining 20 have been brought from other national schools in the neighbourhood for the purpose of swelling the attendance at this place. If the Commissioners should be pleased to direct an inquiry upon the subject they will find our statements on that head fully borne out.

We have, &c.,  
(signed) *Richard Owens, Adm.*  
*Peter M<sup>r</sup> Glove, c.o.*

— No. 93. —

(8782—77.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.  
Rakeeragh National School, County Monaghan.

Gentlemen,

Ballibny, 16 May 1877.

I beg leave to inform you that 71 children were this day in attendance at the temporary house which I have erected for the accommodation of the pupils of the above-named school. Of that number, 43 were on the rolls of Rakeeragh School on the 13th of March last, and the remaining 28, except four or five, never attended any other national school but Rakeeragh.

It was notified to me, in your letter of the 3rd instant, that the district inspector had been directed to visit and report upon the temporary house, and the attendance of children thereat. As he has not yet done so, I would respectfully suggest to the Commissioners that the matter be again brought under his notice.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *L. J. O'Neill, P.P.*

— No. 94. —

(5426—77.)

Rev. L. J. O'Neill to the Commissioners of National Education.  
Rakeeragh National School.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Ballibny, 22 May 1877.

THROUGH my removal from the office which I formerly occupied of Catholic chaplain of Monaghan Gaol has nothing to do with my position as manager of the above-named school, yet as Sir John Leslie, M.P., on the part of Colonel Lloyd, has thought proper, in a question asked in the House of Commons, to connect those two things, it will not be out of place to give an account of my dismissal from the gaol chaplaincy, both for your information, and that it may be forwarded among the papers asked for by Sir John Leslie in connection with Rakeeragh School.

Previously to March 1874 I had been for eight years Catholic chaplain of the Monaghan Union Workhouse, as well as of the County Gaol. During all that time no provision of any kind existed in the workhouse for the religious education of the Catholic children. All the officers of the workhouse, and indeed of the union, with the exception of myself, were Protestants, even to the nurses in the workhouse hospital, although four-fifths of the inmates of the workhouse and three-fourths of the ratepayers of the union were Catholics. In February 1874 the situation of workhouse schoolmistress became vacant, and the appointment to the office was to be made on the 4th of March. Previous to the day on which the appointment was to be made, I wrote to the guardians calling their attention to the want of suitable provision for the religious instruction of the Catholic pauper children, and asking that, in order to supply that want, a Catholic might be appointed to the office of schoolmistress. A highly-qualified Catholic teacher, who was also a classed teacher in the service of the National Board, had offered herself as a candidate. On the 4th March, the day on which the schoolmistress was to be appointed, I presented myself before the Board of Guardians to urge upon their attention the views represented in my previous letter. My remarks were received with the greatest disfavour; I was requested in an insulting manner to leave the room, and one of the Protestant candidates was appointed. News of these proceedings quickly spread abroad, and aroused a strong feeling of indignation all over the union.

union. Up to this time there had been only four Catholics elected guardians at the board, but immediately Catholic candidates were put in nomination in almost all the electoral divisions of the union for the then approaching annual election, the result being that 18 Catholic guardians were returned out of a total of 27 elected guardians. Naturally I felt a great interest in the result of that election, and used all my legitimate influence in favour of the newly-nominated candidates, particularly in the electoral division of Monaghan in which I resided. One of the ratepayers entitled to vote in the division of Monaghan was then a prisoner in Monaghan Gaol. At the instance of his family, I brought into the gaol for his signature the voting-paper which had been left at his residence, and wrote my name upon it as a witness to his signature. I was then of opinion, and I still adhere to that opinion, that there was nothing illegal in this proceeding; if there had been, the Board of Superintendence of the gaol would not have been content with my mere removal from the chaplaincy, but would also have made me amenable to the law. Soon afterwards the attention of the Board of Superintendence was directed to the matter by Colonel Lloyd, himself a member of the board, and at a meeting held for the purpose, at which Colonel Lloyd was present, my resignation was asked for.

I now beg leave to call your attention to the proceedings of the Board of Guardians subsequently to the election of March 1874. Soon after the first meeting of the board the appointment of a Catholic catechist, whose duty it would be to assist in the religious instruction of the Catholic children, was moved at my suggestion, and on the 29th April 1874 a resolution was passed that a Catholic catechist be appointed. This resolution Colonel Lloyd (who was then, as now, an *ex-officio* member of the Board of Guardians) strenuously opposed at the board.

From the time of the election of guardians, in March 1874, Colonel Lloyd, the land-agent of Lord Rossmore, took every opportunity of manifesting his serious displeasure with the tenants on Lord Rossmore's estate who had voted for the new guardians, and with the clergy whom he considered instrumental in having new guardians returned. He showed his displeasure in a great variety of ways, notably by his opposition to certain schools on the estate under the management of the Catholic clergy, and in particular to Rakeeragh School, which was under my management. Up to this time all the schools of the neighbourhood had been working together harmoniously. The attendance at them was influenced by no external pressure of any kind, but solely by their respective merits. Neither I, nor any other Catholic clergyman, had endeavoured by the exercise of any pressure upon the Catholic children, or their parents, to diminish the attendance at Colonel Lloyd's schools. On this point I challenge inquiry. The first interference with the *status quo* was Colonel Lloyd's sending his bailiff to the tenantry to request their attendance on a certain day at the Rossmore Agency Office. He there desired them to withdraw their children from Rakeeragh School. This they declined to do. Colonel Lloyd then had notice served upon the recusants, requiring them to give up the turbary which they had previously enjoyed in connection with their farms. Hearing of this, two of the Catholic priests waited on Colonel Lloyd at his office, to entreat him to permit the tenants on the Rossmore Estate to send their children to the school they had been always attending, but he declined to see them. Two or three days afterwards a deputation, consisting of eight of the tenantry, waited at the office, but failed to see Colonel Lloyd, whereupon they addressed to him a memorial, of which the following is a copy:—

“To Colonel Lloyd.

“We, the Catholic tenants on Lord Rossmore's property, respectfully entreat your Honour not to persist in asking us to withdraw our children from the schools they are attending at present. We have contributed to build those schools in order that our children might receive an education in accordance with our religious principles. We regard it as a most important duty to have our children brought up, not only to fit them for this world, but to prepare them for the next.

“We are of opinion that it is only in Catholic schools, and under Catholic teachers, that this can be done properly, and for that reason have never availed ourselves of the great advantages offered by the Model School.

“We have every confidence that you will not insist upon our doing a thing at variance with the principles of our faith, and that you will not inflict punishment upon us for acting up to the teachings of our religion.

“Your obedient servants,

(signed)

“William Duffy.

“Pat. Soraghan.

“Patrick Fanning.

“Patrick Murphy.

“John Fanning.

“John O'Neill.

“John Duffy.

“Francis Cassidy.

“P.S.—The above-named called at the office, but did not succeed in seeing your Honour, and hence we send it (the memorial) through the post.”

To this memorial Colonel Lloyd replied as follows:—

“ Rossmore Estate Office,  
“ Monaghan, 24th December 1875.

“ To Messrs. *William Duffy, Pat. Soraghan, Patrick Fanning, Patrick Murphy, John Fanning, John O'Neill, John Duffy, Francis Cassidy.*

“ In reply to your memorial, I beg to say that I cannot, on the part of Lord Rossmore, accede to the request contained in it. To do so would be to so far establish a system of denominational education on the estate, which, I need not inform you, is contrary to his Lordship's convictions, and is not recognised by the law of the land in such schools. I would remind you that the late Lord Rossmore, at considerable expense, and at the urgent solicitation of his tenantry, erected commodious and comfortable school-houses on his property. He also secured the services of efficient masters in the schools referred to in your memorial—men whose efficiency has been vouched for by the district inspector, who is himself a Roman Catholic; and I must, therefore, insist that the advantages thus provided be embraced by the children of his tenantry of all denominations in the locality. I cannot permit any organised combination to reduce the average attendance so as to throw the entire support of these schools on the estate, and at the same time deprive them of the supervision of the Government inspector. I have no wish whatever to interfere with your religious faith. No person regrets more than his Lordship and myself the want of proper religious instruction to your children, and the neglect of this duty on the part of your clergyman. In conclusion, I would remind you that your clergy are the proper persons to impart religious teaching, and, to enable them to do so, every facility in conformity with the rules of the Board, which the Commissioners of Education in Ireland consider ample, so far as I am aware, has been afforded, and I shall be only too glad to learn that this solemn duty, which I find on inquiry has been so much neglected, will in future be properly attended to, in accordance with the rules.

(signed) “ *Jesse Lloyd.*”

This reply would appear to suggest what Colonel Lloyd has on other occasions more explicitly stated—viz., that an organised combination had been formed with the view of reducing the attendance at his schools. To this I reply that no such combination as that referred to by Colonel Lloyd ever existed. If any falling-off took place in the attendance at Colonel Lloyd's schools, it was solely because the pupils were attracted by the superior efficiency of Rakeeragh School. I have been repeatedly charged with exercising undue influence, particularly by altar denunciations. In reply to this charge, I beg leave to say that no word was ever spoken on the subject from any altar in the parish until it was seen that every amicable means, by petitions and deputations, had failed to secure from Colonel Lloyd freedom of education for Lord Rossmore's tenants. Then, and not till then, did I attempt to fortify them against the influences of Colonel Lloyd, by placing before them from the altar (as I did in guarded and temperate language, as befitted the place) what I conceived to be their moral obligations towards their children in the novel circumstances in which they found themselves placed.

Soon after the date of the above reply of Colonel Lloyd, the proceedings against the tenants with reference to their bog were discontinued. The bailiff of the estate took care, however, to announce to the tenants that Colonel Lloyd would take another and more effectual way of dealing with Rakeeragh School. The meaning of this soon became apparent, by the service upon me and upon the teacher of notice to quit the school premises. A decree for possession was obtained against us at the quarter-sessions in October 1876, and was confirmed on appeal by the judge of assize. Whilst these proceedings were pending, no efforts were spared on my part to effect an amicable settlement of the question. It was stated on behalf of Lord Rossmore that his Lordship merely desired to become patron of the school, and was ready to leave everything as regarded the management and teaching of the school as it had been before. In what I now consider to have been a too yielding spirit, I offered to agree to those terms, if only Lord Rossmore would guarantee that he would not dismiss me from the management, except for reasons which would be considered sufficient by the Commissioners of National Education. This guarantee he sternly refused to give. It was also stated that Lord Rossmore desired to take possession of the school premises merely for the purpose of putting them in proper repair. I repeatedly asked permission to effect all necessary repairs at my own cost, without having the threat of eviction hanging over me. This also was refused. After being turned out of the school premises, there was no other course open to me but to obtain a site for a new school-house, which I happily succeeded in doing, to apply to the Commissioners for a building grant, and to erect a temporary structure for the accommodation of the pupils in the meantime. The old premises have been reopened after some trifling repairs by Colonel Lloyd, and an attendance has been secured of twenty or more pupils, for the most part drafted in from the adjoining schools, as the Board's officers can at any time ascertain. The children who formerly attended Rakeeragh School are now, and mean to continue, in attendance at my school. It is reported that the coercive measures that were adopted last year, viz., the withdrawal of turf-bog accommodation, is again being resorted to for the purpose of deterring the people from sending their children to my school. I beg leave once more to respectfully ask the Commissioners whether

whether they will permit Colonel Lloyd, who is himself a manager of National Schools, to act in this manner towards a National School under other management.

In conclusion, I would again entreat the Commissioners to give me a grant-in-aid for the building of a new school-house on the site which I have secured for the purpose.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *L. J. O'Neill, P. P.*

— No. 95. —

District Inspector to the Commissioners of National Education.

7,963.—Rakeeragh National School, County Monaghan.—District 18.

Gentlemen,

Monaghan, 25 May 1877.

In compliance with the instructions contained in your letter of 3rd instant, I made, on Tuesday last, a visit to the Rakeeragh National School, which was transferred to a temporary wooden house on the 14th instant.

This house, which is erected in a corner of the site proposed for the Rakeeragh Applicant School, has two approaches—one from the public road, leading from Monaghan to Castleblayney by a gangway thrown across a small stream; the other by a wicket from a lane meeting this road. The place is quite accessible.

The house, which has a good timber flooring, consists entirely of wood, the roof being covered with felt, which renders it rainproof; internally, it is 24 feet long, 18 feet wide, and 8½ feet high. There are eight large windows, giving to the room a lightsome, cheerful appearance. There are six desks and two separate forms of a proper kind, sufficient for about 60 pupils.

The house is suitable for the accommodation of the pupils in summer weather, but it would not, in its present state, answer this purpose in winter. It would be too cold, and liable to damp from rain. In the event of a permanent school-house not being erected before the approach of winter, the manager proposes to remedy these defects by putting up an American stove, and having any little interstices between the boards which form the end and side walls carefully caulked, and the whole tarred on the outside, so as to render it impermeable to rain. That he will fulfil this promise there appears to be no ground for doubting, and in that case the house will answer temporarily for school purposes even in winter.

At my visit I found 72 pupils in attendance, 37 males and 35 females; and of this number, 62 belonged to the Rakeeragh National School when held in the former house, two have come from a school under Christian Brothers in the town of Monaghan, four from Lisletrim National School, one from Anaglogh National School, and the remaining three are new pupils. The average attendance during the brief period the school has been held in this temporary house is 68·7. This attendance, which exceeds that in the former school-house, is, I think, likely to be maintained; in my opinion, the permanent average attendance here will be about 55.

The late teacher in the former school-house, Mr. Thomas Corr, has charge of the school.

The Secretaries,  
Education Office, Dublin.

I remain, &c.,  
(signed) *Michael Molony,*  
District Inspector.

— No. 96. —

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

*Re Rakeeragh National School.*

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
25 May 1877.

Sirs,

ADVERTING to my letter of 13th March last to you, in which I stated that Lord Rossmore had resumed possession of the above-mentioned school-house and discontinued school, I shall thank you to let me know have the Commissioners struck the name of said school off their books.

Lord Rossmore has since repaired the building and reopened it as a private school, at which there is an average daily attendance of over 36 children.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd.*

The Secretaries,  
National Education, Dublin.

— No. 87. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

Tanderagee Applicant School.—7963. Rakeeragh National School—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
1 June 1877.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that your application for aid towards building a school-house at Tanderagee was submitted to the Commissioners of National Education at their meeting on the 29th ult., and that they were unable to entertain it, as the proposed site is within two-and-a-half miles of the Tappa Vested School, and is thus at variance with the provisions of Rule 13 of the Board's rules and regulations.

I am directed to inform you, further, that the district inspector states, in his report upon your application, that "if this house should be erected, and the school brought into operation, there are no just grounds for believing that it would command a sufficient average attendance."

I have also to acquaint you that the Commissioners had under consideration your letter of the 25th ult., in which you ask if the Rakeeragh School has been struck off the rolls, and that they have directed me to inform you that they have not struck that school off their rolls, inasmuch as they have sanctioned its transfer by its manager, the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P., to a temporary wooden house, pending the erection of a permanent school-house, towards the building of which they have made the usual grants.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan, Secretary.

Colonel J. Lloyd, J.P., Monaghan.

— No. 88. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. L. J. O'Neill.

7963.—Rakeeragh National School.—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
4 June 1877.

Reverend Sir,

I HAVE to inform you that the Commissioners of National Education, having, at their meeting on the 29th ultimo, duly considered your proposal for the transfer of the Rakeeragh Non-vested School from the old school-house to the wooden house erected by you, together with the district inspector's report thereon, have sanctioned the transfer as a temporary arrangement, on condition that the proposed permanent building shall be erected within a reasonable time.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan, Secretary.

Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P., Ballybay.

— No. 89 —

Commissioners of National Education to the District Inspector.

7,963.—Rakeeragh National School—District 18.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
4 June 1877.

Sir,

I AM to inform you that the Commissioners of National Education, at their meeting on the 29th ultimo, ordered that the transfer of the Rakeeragh Non-vested School from the old school-house to the wooden house erected by the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.P., be sanctioned as a temporary arrangement, on condition that the proposed permanent building shall be erected within a reasonable time.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

M. Molony, Esq., District Inspector, 18.

— No. 100. —

(9533-77.)

Rev. B. Duffy to the Commissioners of National Education.

Tattenclave National School, County Monaghan.

Gentlemen,

Lisnamard, Newbliss, 5 June 1877.

It is very gratifying to find that the accommodation which I have been able to procure for Tattenclave School has been approved of by the Board as a temporary arrangement. Though not all I could wish, it was the best I could find, after we had been so cruelly evicted from the old premises.

I think I may now announce that I have secured a suitable site for a new school-house, and that I shall commence the erection of the same as soon as possible.

The Secretaries,  
Board of National Education, Ireland.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) B. Duffy, P.R.,  
Manager.

— No. 101. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Rev. L. J. O'Neill.

Rakeeragh Building Application.—District 18.

Reverend Sir,

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
6 June 1877.

I AM to inform you that the Commissioners of National Education, having had before them your application for aid towards building the Rakeeragh School, together with the inspector's report thereon, have ordered that the usual aid be granted towards the erection of the proposed vested school-house.

Rev. L. J. O'Neill, P.R., Ballybay.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

— No. 102. —

Commissioners of National Education to the District Inspector.

Rakeeragh Building Application.—District 18.

Sir,

Office of National Education, Dublin, 6 June 1877.

I AM to inform you that the Commissioners of National Education having had before them the Rev. L. J. O'Neill's application for aid towards building the Rakeeragh School, together with your report thereon, have ordered that the usual aid be granted towards the erection of the proposed vested school-house.

M. Molony, Esq., District Inspector, 18.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Secretary.

— No. 103. —

(5850-77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Sirs,

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan, 7 June 1877.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 1st inst., in reference to the Rakeeragh National School, &c.

I sincerely regret that by the decision of your Board in the case of that school, they have given further evidence of their desire to denominationalise the schools under them.

They have ignored the joint petition of 44 heads of families, praying for the continuance of a school on or near the old site, as proposed by Lord Rossmore.

The petition, which is signed by 20 Roman Catholics and 24 Protestants, has been utterly disregarded by your Board, and the impression on the mind of the general public is that the course adopted by the Commissioners is to thwart Lord Rossmore in his design to have mixed schools on his estate, that design being in perfect conformity with both the rules and the original spirit of the national system of education in Ireland.

By this decision the Board have also set at naught the request of Protestant clergymen of different denominations. It sanctions the transfer of Rakeeragh School to the townland of Beaghbarton, a mile distant, while it applies to it the name of Rakeeragh.

This has been done too in direct opposition to the protest lodged by the managers of the adjoining schools, and in the absence of any memorial or expressed desire to have a school at this place.

Your Commissioners should have been informed by Mr. Molony, their district inspector, that there is a National School about half a mile from Beaghbarton, where the new vested school is to be built, and a second within a mile. Thus, there will be three National Schools, viz., Beaghbarton, Greaghglass, and Lisleitrin within the short space of one mile, and not one between Beaghbarton and the town of Monaghan, a distance of over three miles.

A reference to the Ordnance survey will corroborate the accuracy of this statement.

Again, I beg to inform you that you are not accurate in stating that the proposed site for Tanderagee School, which is within a few perches of the old Rakeeragh School it is intended to replace, is within  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles of Tappa vested school. The correct distance by the public road is 2 miles and 7 furlongs according to measurement, or but 40 perches short of three miles, the required distance.

In my letter of the 18th March last, I intimated that Lord Rossmore would apply to be made patron of the old Rakeeragh School, in order that a manager of unsullied character might be appointed over the two Roman Catholic teachers, and lest your Board should take advantage of the few perches short of the required distance from Tappa vested school to deprive the people of the district of the educational advantages they have enjoyed for over 40 years.

My fears did not prove groundless, for in order to carry out what must now appear from the correspondence to be a preconceived determination, you intimated that the manager would be retained and the schools removed a mile distant, and off his Lordship's property.

I must take exception to the report made by your district inspector, in which he alleges that if Tanderagee School should be erected, there are no grounds for believing it would command an average attendance. This is simply untrue, and could not have been made by a fair and impartial referee. There was an average attendance of 50 at the old Rakeeragh National School previous to the organisation that has been formed against the national schools on Lord Rossmore's estate.

There can be no doubt that, if the ecclesiastical intimidation now enforced in the district were withdrawn, the same average would be fully maintained. Even with that intimidation enforced, as at present, there are in the old Rakeeragh schools 60 children on the roll, 23 of whom are Roman Catholics, while there is now an average attendance of 32. Your inspector has never entered the school since it was taken up by Lord Rossmore. This fact I submit disqualifies him for expressing an opinion on the subject of the average attendance. Has he informed you that in the temporary structure at Beaghbarton to be endowed by your Board in opposition to the wishes of the people in the district, there is not a single Protestant child in attendance?

It certainly seems strange that your Board should ignore the expressed wishes of the public by petition, and otherwise as to where the schools should be erected, and that you should decide on placing it in a position asked for only by a Roman Catholic priest.

I cannot any longer allow any influence to interfere with my reporting to your Board that the Rev. Laurence J. O'Neill was dismissed from the chaplaincy of Monaghan Gaol for illegal conduct, a fact which is recorded on the minutes of the gaol for the month of July 1875. This conduct, first denied and afterwards admitted by him, has not only destroyed confidence in him on the part of the community, but ought to render him ineligible in the opinion of the Commissioners of a State trust from holding the position of manager of a school under their control, even for a single day.

In the hope that the facts I have here stated will induce the Commissioners to reconsider and alter a decision which has given universal dissatisfaction in the district, and causes inconvenience to children for whose educational requirements Lord Rossmore is anxious to provide,—

The Secretaries, National Education, Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *James Lloyd.*

— No. 104. —

(5070—77.)

Most Rev. J. Donnelly to the Commissioners of National Education.

Bishop's Residence, Monaghan,  
16 June 1877.

Gentlemen,  
COLONEL LYON having favoured the public, through the columns of his local organ, the "Monaghan Standard," with a copy of his latest communication to the Commissioners of National Education in reference to their recent decisions regarding the Rakeeragh National School, it is consequently open to those who are concerned in the matter to comment upon that letter without exposing themselves to the unjust and unwarrantable imputation of having secret correspondence with the Education Office.

Colonel



Colonel Lloyd's letter is a lengthy document, and in the dictatorial insolence of its tone is just such an epistle as one would naturally expect from the agent of the Grand Master of the Orangemen of Monaghan. But there are only a few points in it upon which I care to trouble the Commissioners with any observations. Colonel Lloyd imputes to the Commissioners a "desire to denominationalise the schools under them," and "to thwart Lord Rossmore in his design to have mixed schools on his estate." Now I do not feel called upon to defend the general policy of the Commissioners, but I should be glad to have from Lord Rossmore or Colonel Lloyd an exact definition of what they mean by a "mixed school." While waiting for such definition, I venture to state that their idea of a "mixed school" is one in which the pupils should be of different denominations, but the teacher, the manager, and the patron should be Orangemen! And I venture further to conjecture that "Lord Rossmore's design to have mixed schools on his estate" is intimately connected with another idea, viz., that the fact of his being proprietor of the estate invests him with the authority and the right to dictate to his tenants how, and where, and by whom they are to educate their children; and in regard to these two points I do not hesitate to say that if the Commissioners in an evil hour should be seduced into supporting Lord Rossmore and his agent, the national system of education could not possibly exist for three months. I must say, however, that I anticipate nothing of the kind.

But as regards Lord Rossmore's alleged "design to have mixed schools on his estate," it is important to observe that Lord Rossmore's practice, or rather his agent's, has been diametrically opposed to such design. In point of fact there were mixed schools "on his estate," and if it is true that the schools have been denominationalised, that the result must be attributed exclusively to the proceedings of his agent. The Rakeeragh School was for 40 years a mixed school, and I appeal to the Commissioners to state whether during that long period there ever was a complaint made to them of any attempt on the part of either teacher or manager to interfere directly or indirectly with the religious tenets of any Protestant pupils. In later years Lord Rossmore, or rather his agent, Colonel Lloyd, thought proper to establish what are known in the locality as "Protestant National Schools," and of course Protestant parents were easily induced to withdraw their children from the old established schools and send them to those taught by teachers of their own denomination. Nobody found fault with Colonel Lloyd for this, but when not content with his success in this respect, he proceeded to make use of his influence as agent of the estate to coerce the Catholic tenants to withdraw their children from the National Schools, which they themselves had established 50 years before for the education of their children, and to send them to schools under the patronage and control of the Grand Master of the Orangemen of Monaghan, and when he failed and utterly failed in this, what right has he to charge the Commissioners with "a desire to denominationalise the schools under them," seeing that if the schools on the Rossmore estate have been denominationalised, the result is attributable to Colonel Lloyd alone.

Colonel Lloyd states in his letter that "by this decision the Board have also set at naught the request of Protestant clergymen of different denominations."

Now, I should like to know, seeing that Protestant ascendancy by law no longer exists in this country, what right "Protestant clergymen of different denominations" can have to dictate to the Commissioners of National Education or to Catholic parents, how, where, and by whom the Catholic children of this Catholic country are to be educated.

Colonel Lloyd also states that the action of the Commissioners has been "in direct opposition of the protest lodged by the managers of the adjoining schools, and in the absence of any memorial or expressed desire to have a school at that place."

Now, in regard to this statement, I have to say that the only school which can with even approximate truth be described as an "adjoining school" is the Greaghglass National School, which is situated at a distance of half-a-mile from the New Rakeeragh School-house, and which is quite a modern school, having been established in 1873 (whereas the Rakeeragh School was established in 1826), and which obviously owes its origin to the fact that the supporters of such schools are not content to accept the principle of mixed education except on the condition that, whilst the pupils shall be mixed, the teaching staff, the manager, and the patron shall be, if not Orangemen, at any rate Protestants. I have further to observe, as regards this Greaghglass National School, that since its first opening not a single Roman Catholic pupil has ever entered it, and consequently that the transfer of the Rakeeragh School from the old house, which was built by the parishioners, to the new house, which has also been erected by Catholic aid alone, cannot in any way interfere with its success. Further, it is not true that the Commissioners have decided this case, "in the absence of any memorial or expressed desire to have a school at the place," for to my own knowledge a memorial signed by 69 householders, the genuineness of whose signatures was attested by a declaration made before a magistrate, was presented to the Commissioners in favour of the new school-house at Beughbarton.

Colonel Lloyd further states that the "report made by the district inspector in which he alleges that if Tanderagee School should be erected, there are no grounds for believing it would command an average attendance, is simply untrue and could not have been made by a fair and impartial referee."

It is not for me to suggest what steps a public officer, whose honour, integrity and truthfulness have been thus publicly impugned, should pursue, but I deem it right to state that, according to my estimate of the public spirit and independence of the Catholics of Monaghan, the inspector was perfectly justified in making the statement which Colonel Lloyd has selected as his ground for denouncing him as untruthful, untrueworthy, and partial.

Colonel Lloyd states that the Rev. L. J. O'Neill was dismissed from the chaplaincy of Monaghan Gaol "for illegal conduct." Now there is not a man in Monaghan that does not understand thoroughly well that if Father O'Neill had been guilty of *illegal* conduct he would have been prosecuted for it with all the rigour of the law. Father O'Neill's conduct was not illegal. It consisted simply in attesting the signature to a poor law voting paper of a ratepayer entitled to vote at the election, who at the time was in gaol under sentence of imprisonment for an assault. For this act, which was not even a violation of the bye-laws of the Monaghan Gaol, as I have been informed by eminent counsel whom I consulted, but which may have been an indiscretion more or less serious, Father O'Neill was not prosecuted according to law, but persecuted most relentlessly, and forced to resign his chaplaincy.

Colonel Lloyd goes on to say that this conduct ought to render Father O'Neill ineligible to hold the position of manager of a National School for even a single day.

In reference to this I may be permitted to observe that the roles and regulations of all public and Government departments are naturally of about equal gravity and importance, and if Father O'Neill's conduct, supposing it to have been an infringement of the prison regulations, which I do not admit it to have been, would render him, in Colonel Lloyd's estimation, ineligible to hold the position of manager even for a single day, I confess myself unable to conjecture on what grounds Colonel Lloyd can consistently retain in charge of one of his own National Schools a teacher who was proved to have been guilty of a deliberate infringement of one of the most important regulations of the National Board of Education, by taking part in proceedings connected with the election of poor law guardians, for which conduct he was fined by the Board.

I am also unable to imagine with what face Colonel Lloyd can come before the public as censor of the priests as managers, and dictate to the Commissioners how such priests should be dealt with, when it is notorious that so loosely and inefficiently has he himself discharged his duties of manager, that although he has only three National Schools to look after, two of his teachers within the last few years incurred the severe displeasure of the Commissioners, one having been fined, as I have just said, for having mixed himself up in the poor law election proceedings, and another dismissed from the district for marching at the head of an Orange procession.

The Secretaries,  
Education Office, Dublin.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *J. James Donnelly*,  
Roman Catholic Bishop of Clogher.

— No. 105. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
23 June 1877.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that I have submitted to the Commissioners of National Education your letter of the 7th instant, relative to their decisions in the case of the Rakeeragh National School, &c.

You commence by stating, that "by their decision in the case of that school they "have given further evidence of their desire to denominationalise the schools under them."

In reference to this statement, I am directed by the Commissioners to express to you their very great surprise that you should have felt yourself warranted to make it, inasmuch as the records of the Rakeeragh School show that for a long series of years it had been attended by children of different religious denominations, and had fulfilled all the functions of a mixed national school; and if, within the last few years, it has ceased to command a mixed attendance, that result is clearly attributable not to any action on the part of the Commissioners, but to the course you yourself pursued in relation to it and other national schools on Lord Rossmore's estate.

In connection with this point, I am to remind you that, from the documents which you yourself furnished to the Board in January 1876, it appears that certain tenants of the Rossmore estate petitioned you for liberty to continue to send their children as heretofore to the old national schools established many years previously by the people themselves, and that in answer to this appeal you emphatically refused such permission, and required them to send their children to the schools under your own management. It cannot be any matter of surprise, therefore, that as a result of your proceedings the Protestant attendance at the Rakeeragh School which, in 1873, was 26, should have fallen to one, when in March 1877, Lord Rossmore evicted the Rev. Mr. O'Neill from the schoolhouse, and closed the school. That the recent decision of the Board could have no tendency to denominationalise the Rakeeragh School is evident from the fact, that the Board has made to trustees a grant for the erection of a *vested* school; a class of schools which secures for the parents of children of all denominations the opportunity of having religious instruction in their own faith imparted to them in the school.

Yours

Your next statement is that "they (the Commissioners) have ignored the joint petition of 44 heads of families, praying for the continuance of a school on or near the old site, as proposed by Lord Rossmore."

In reference to this, I am directed to observe that the Commissioners fully considered the petition referred to, and to remind you that, if these 44 heads of families have been deprived of a national school in their immediate neighbourhood, the inconvenience they suffer cannot possibly be attributed to any action on the part of the Commissioners, but is altogether owing to the fact that Lord Rossmore, in the exercise of his legal rights, evicted the manager of the Rakeeragh School, took possession of the schoolhouse, and closed the school. The Commissioners have also to inform you that the Rev. Mr. O'Neill's application to replace the old Rakeeragh Schoolhouse by another at the nearest site it was possible for him to procure, was supported by a petition much more numerous signed than the one to which you refer.

In reference to your next statement, namely, that "the impression made on the minds of the general public is that the course adopted by the Commissioners is to thwart Lord Rossmore in his design to have mixed schools on his estate," the Commissioners direct me to remind you that this is the first time any such design on the part of Lord Rossmore has been made known to them. In more than one of your communications you have distinctly stated that Lord Rossmore's object in taking possession of the schoolhouses on his property was to rebuild and otherwise improve them, and that he had no intention to interfere with the management or teachers of the schools. And in reference to Lord Rossmore's intentions regarding the Rakeeragh Schoolhouse in particular, the Commissioners have to observe that your letters on the subject are extremely difficult to reconcile with one another. Thus, whereas in your letter of 2nd June 1876, in which you expressly disclaim any intention on the part of Lord Rossmore to interfere with the managers or teachers of the Rakeeragh, Drumgarley, and Tattenclave National Schools, you state that "so far as Lord Rossmore is concerned every facility will be afforded, and all necessary arrangements made to prevent the business of the present schools being discontinued for even a single day."

In your letter on the subject, dated 13th March 1877, you state that Lord Rossmore has discontinued the Rakeeragh School for the present, and is about to repair it, and when it is re-opened will apply to be made patron; and in your letter of the 29th of the same month, you repeat that Lord Rossmore has "resumed possession of said school, and closed it."

But in your letter of the 2nd April last, you inquire "has the name of the Rakeeragh School been struck off the books," and on being informed that it had not, you wrote immediately after, viz., on the 3th April, expressing your surprise "at the name of the school not being removed from the books."

On the 12th April you forwarded a telegram to this office, again requesting to be informed "if the Rakeeragh National School has been struck off the Board's list," and on being informed in the negative, you again wrote on the 14th of April, expressing your surprise that the Commissioners had delayed striking the school off the roll. On the 27th April you informed the Commissioners that the school had been re-opened under its former master and mistress, but that they were constrained by the Roman Catholic bishop and his clergy to leave, and that you had procured the services of another master; but on the next day, the 28th of April, you write as follows:—"Six weeks have elapsed since I first notified to you the resumption of possession by the landlord, and the discontinuance of the school, and requested you to strike the name off your books. As yet no decision has been given. There is certainly procrastination somewhere, either with your Board or district inspector in this town, for I also apprised him of the closing on the date of the occurrence."

On the 25th of May last you wrote, referring to your letter of the 13th of March, and again asked, "have the Commissioners struck the name of said school off their books?" and at the same time you intimate that Lord Rossmore had repaired the building, "and re-opened it as a private school."

In another paragraph of your letter of the 7th instant, you state as follows:—"In my letter of the 13th March last, I intimated that Lord Rossmore would apply to be made patron of the old Rakeeragh School, in order that a manager of unsullied character might be appointed over the two Roman Catholic teachers," &c.

In reference to this statement, the Commissioners are obliged to remind you that your letter of the 13th March contained no allusion to the appointment of a manager of unsullied character. The following is a copy of that letter:—

"Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
"13 March 1877.

"Sirs,

"I beg to inform you that Lord Rossmore has taken possession of Rakeeragh School-house, and discontinued school for the present; his Lordship is about to repair the building, and when it is re-opened he will apply to be made patron.

"I am, &c.

(signed) "Jesse Lloyd."

"The Secretaries,  
"National Education, Dublin."

Furthermore, I have to state that no such allusion to the manager of the Rakeeragh School is to be found in any letter of yours addressed to this office, previous to your letter

of the 7th instant. On the contrary, you distinctly state in your letter of the 2nd June 1876, already referred to, that Lord Rossmore had no intention to interfere with the managers of the schools on the property.

You now inform the Board that one of these managers, "the Rev. Laurence J. O'Neill" was dismissed from the chaplaincy of the Monaghan Gaol for illegal conduct," and the Commissioners have to state, in reply, that this circumstance had never previously been notified by you to them; and in reference to your further statement that the fact of his dismissal "is recorded on the minutes of the gaol for the month of July 1875," the Commissioners (assuming that you mention 1875 by mistake for 1874), have to observe that on turning to the Report of the Inspector General of Prisons for 1874, they find it recorded there that he, the chaplain, "resigned," and the Commissioners have reason to believe that this resignation was not the result of any immoral or illegal act committed by him. I am, however, to state that if you had reported to the Board immediately after the occurrence that the manager of the Rakeeragh School had been guilty of illegal conduct, and had been prosecuted according to law, and convicted, and that his conduct (as you now affirm) had been such as "ought to render him ineligible, in the opinion of the Commissioners of a State trust, from holding the position of manager of a school under their control, even for a single day," the Commissioners would have felt it incumbent upon them to give the most careful consideration to such a charge. But seeing that it is only after the lapse of three years that you have thought fit to call attention to the matter, and bearing in mind that so recently as June 1876 you declared that Lord Rossmore had no intention to interfere with the managers, a description which includes amongst others the manager of the Rakeeragh School, *i.e.*, the Rev. Mr. O'Neill, the Commissioners feel bound to decline taking any action in reference to your statement.

As regards the paragraph in which you assume that the district inspector, Mr. Molony, neglected to inform the Commissioners of the distance of the Greaghglass and Lisleirim National Schools from the site at Beaghbarton, the Commissioners direct me to state that you do Mr. Molony an injustice. He did, in fact, state in his report that the Greaghglass National School is within half-a-mile of Beaghbarton, and that the Lisleirim National School is within a mile of it. There is, therefore, no foundation for your impeachment of the inspector; but inasmuch as the Commissioners had evidence which satisfied them that the transfer of the Rakeeragh National School to the site at Beaghbarton, would, while supplying an actual educational want, exercise no injurious influence upon either of the schools at Greaghglass and Lisleirim, they sanctioned the transfer of the Rakeeragh School to the Beaghbarton site.

You take exception also to the statement made by the district inspector, that, "if Tan-deragee School should be erected, there are no grounds for believing it would command an average attendance;" and you affirm that "this is simply untrue, and could not have been made by a fair and impartial referee." I am directed to inform you that the Commissioners have every confidence in the truthfulness, impartiality, and judgment of their inspector, and that they believe so serious an imputation upon his official character to be entirely unfounded.

And as regards your further allegation against him, *viz.*, that he "has never entered the school since it was taken up by Lord Rossmore," I am directed to remind you that your own letters show the Board that in March last, and again in April, you wrote to him, informing him that Lord Rossmore had taken absolute possession of the Rakeeragh school-house, and had closed the school. The school which you subsequently opened in the same house being, as you yourself designate it in your letter of the 25th ultimo, "a private school," it in no way came within the scope of his duty to visit it, even if, as does not appear, you had expressed to him your wish that he should do so.

You state that the site on which you proposed to build a vested school at Tanderagee is distant from the Tappa vested school, not  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles, as mentioned in the inspector's report, but 2 miles and 7 furlongs. Now, even assuming your estimate to be correct, the distance is still within the minimum fixed by the Board's rules, and independently of the question of the attendance the school was likely to command, would consequently have deterred the Commissioners from acceding to your application.

The Commissioners, in conclusion, desire me to say that you appear to them to be under the impression that a national school is inseparable from the house in which it is held, and, consequently, that whoever obtains possession of the school-house should be held to be, *ipso facto*, invested with supreme control over the school. Labouring under such impression, you seem to think that when Lord Rossmore took possession of the old Rakeeragh school-house, the Commissioners should have regarded that occurrence as having ousted the Rev. L. J. O'Neill from his position and rights as patron and manager of the school, and should either then have extinguished the school by striking it off their rolls, or have sanctioned its continuance in the same house under Lord Rossmore as patron, and under whomsoever he might choose to nominate as manager. Such a course would have been at variance with the uniform practice of the Commissioners, who have always regarded a school as quite distinct and separable from the building in which it may happen to be held. In their view, the pupils, the teacher, and the manager, constitute a school; and whenever, from any cause, a manager has been deprived of his school-house, the invariable usage of the Board has been to sanction the transfer of the school to the nearest suitable house he could procure, and also to allow him a reasonable time to provide such house.

This is the course which has been pursued in the case of the Rev. Mr. O'Neill.

It would, of course, have been very desirable, and probably more convenient for all parties, if the Rev. Mr. O'Neill had been able to obtain a house in the immediate vicinity of the old one. But the Commissioners have been assured that no site nearer than that at Boughbarron could possibly have been obtained by him.

The Commissioners, therefore, felt bound, in accordance with their usage, to sanction the transfer of the school, and as the Rev. Mr. O'Neill was desirous to preserve the identity of the school in its new situation with the old school, which had been held for 50 years, and for that object to have it known by the old name of the Rakeeragh School, the Commissioners did not consider they had any right to prevent him from so doing, especially since the designations of national schools are, by the Board's rules, left to the discretion of managers, subject only to the condition that the designation shall not be of a sectarian character.

Col. J. Lloyd, J.P., Monaghan.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan*, Secretary.

— No. 106. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Most Rev. *J. Donnelly*.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
25 June 1877.

My Lord,  
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you that I have laid it before the Commissioners.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan*, Secretary.

The Most Rev. *J. Donnelly*, Monaghan.

— No. 107. —

The Under Secretary (Dublin Castle) to the Commissioners of National Education.

Gentlemen,

Dublin Castle, 25 June 1877.

I HEREBY transmit, by direction of the Lords Justices, copy of an Order of the House of Commons, dated the 19th instant, and I am to signify their Excellencies' desire that you will furnish me with the Returns therein required, in order that the same may be forwarded to be laid before the House accordingly.

I am also to request that the Returns called for may be signed by the proper officer, and furnished with the least possible delay.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *T. H. Burke*.

The Secretaries to the Commissioners of  
National Education.

Enclosure in No. 107.

House of Commons.

Tuesday, 19 June 1877.

*Ordered*, That there be laid before this House, copies of all correspondence that has passed since the 1st day of January 1876, relating to the National Schools of Drumgarley, Rakeeragh, and Tattenclave, in the county Monaghan, between the managers of said schools, the district inspector, Colonel Lloyd (agent to Lord Rossmore), and the Commissioners of National Education;

And, between the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, the Right Rev. Dr. Donnelly (Roman Catholic Bishop of Clogher), and any other persons, and the Commissioners of National Education, during the same period, in any way relating to the said correspondence, or to any of the said schools.

— No. 108. —

(10,191-77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
26 June 1877.

Sirs,

I **DULY** received yours of 23rd instant, and shall send you a reply immediately, which will of course be included in the correspondence asked for in the House of Commons by Sir John Leslie.

The Secretaries, National Education, Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *James Lloyd.*

— No. 109. —

Commissioners of National Education to the Under Secretary (Dublin Castle).

Office of National Education,  
26 June 1877.

Sir,

I **HAVE** the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, informing the Commissioners of National Education that they are required to furnish a certain Return to an Order of the House of Commons dated the 19th instant, and I am directed to state that the Return in question will be ready within a day or two.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Wm. H. Newell,*  
Secretary.

The Under Secretary, &c. &c. &c.,  
Dublin Castle.

— No. 110. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
29 June 1877.

Sir,

In reference to your letter of the 26th instant, intimating your intention to send immediately a reply to the communication addressed to you by order of the Board on the 23rd instant, such reply to be included in the correspondence asked for in the House of Commons by Sir John Leslie, I am directed to acquaint you that copies of the correspondence in question were ready for transmission to the House on the 27th instant, and in accordance with the practice of this office should have been despatched on that day, particularly as the Irish Government in their letter of the 25th instant enclosing the Order of the House, requested that the Returns should be furnished "with the least possible delay;" but that in consequence of the receipt of your letter on the 27th, they have been hitherto detained in the expectation of receiving your reply.

Under these circumstances, I am to express a hope that your reply may reach this office before Tuesday next, as otherwise the Returns ordered must then be despatched without further delay.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan,*  
Secretary.

Colonel J. Lloyd, J.P., Monaghan.

— No. 111. —

(6394-77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Estate Office, Monaghan,  
30 June 1877.

Sr,

I **ENG** to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th instant, calling on me for a reply to your communication of the 23rd instant, and mentioning that unless my answer was received before Tuesday next, the Returns ordered must be despatched without further delay. I have to state that I was only enabled to take up your letter of the 23rd this morning, owing to the fact that I was engaged as "clerk of the peace" at quarter sessions, which

which duties only terminated on yesterday, and being also acting secretary to the grand jury of this county, I am now busily engaged preparing for the assizes. It will therefore be impossible for me to reply within the time you mention, and I must protest against your Board forwarding the correspondence in question until such time as you receive my answer, which I shall let you have with as little delay as possible. I may also remind you that my letter of the 7th of June remained unanswered until the 23rd.

John E. Sheridan, Esq., Secretary,  
Office of National Education, Marlborough-street,  
Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) Jesse Lloyd.

— No. 112. —

(6440-77).

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Rossmore Agency Office, Monaghan,  
2 July 1877.

Sir,  
By dint of labour I have been enabled to close my reply to your communication of the 23rd ultimo; I therefore forward the same by this night's post.

The Secretaries, Education Office,  
Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) Jesse Lloyd.

— No. 113. —

(6442-77.)

Colonel Lloyd to the Commissioners of National Education.

Sir,

Estate Office, Monaghan, 2 July 1877.

Your voluminous letter of the 23rd ultimo, covering 19 pages of foolscap, and written, as it has been, with a view to justify the Commissioners of National Education in the extraordinary course they have taken in relation to Rakeeragh School, has been, to the present, unanswered solely because my time was occupied during the past week at quarter sessions as clerk of the peace.

You begin by saying you are directed by the Commissioners "to express their very great surprise that I should have felt myself warranted in saying that by their decision they have given further evidence of their desire to denominationalise the schools under them."

In reply, I beg to inform you that they need not feel at all surprised, or even affect to feel surprised. Your Commissioners seem to me to exercise their trust not according to their own rules, or according to the dictates of intelligence and common sense, but at the bidding of one of the factions that are at work in this country. Can there be anything more palpable than the denominationalising tendency of their decision in this very case? They admit they have ignored the joint petition of 44 heads of families, praying for the continuance of the school at or near the old site, where it had been for the past 40 years, that petition being signed by 20 Roman Catholics and 24 Protestants; whereas the memorial supporting the application they granted was not signed by any Protestant whatever; nor is there a single Protestant child now attending the school under Mr. O'Neill's management, and which they have made a vested school. Such conduct is a mere libel on the impartiality by which the majority of your Board affect to be actuated, and proves to a demonstration that in their deliberations there is no room left for any rights that may happen to be opposed by Roman Catholic priests.

You say: "That the decision of the Board could have no tendency to denominationalise the Rakeeragh School is evident from the fact that the Board has made to trustees a grant for the erection of a vested school, a class of school which secures for the parents of children of all denominations the opportunity of having instruction in their own faith."

What a plausible story for the uninitiated! They make a grant for a vested school to Roman Catholic trustees, with the parson and manager a Roman Catholic priest, the teachers Roman Catholics, and every child attending the school a Roman Catholic; and they tell me, or the able Resident Commissioner, Mr. Keenan, tells me for them, that children of all denominations can be instructed in their own faith. They have done this with the joint petition of Roman Catholics and Protestants staring them in the face; and I am told this is administering a mixed system of education!

With regard to your laboured argument, justifying the Commissioners in refusing to build on the old site, because the distance is a furlong short of the minimum fixed by the Board's rules, and which you assure me would have "debarred them from acceding to my application," I characterise it as a quibble, a piece of manifest special pleading which is beneath contempt.

The facts which the Commissioners cannot get rid of are, that they have given a grant for a school which is not required, and they have refused a grant for one that is required; the one refused being applied for by persons of all religious denominations, and the one granted being applied for by only one denomination, through the dismissed chaplain of the Monaghan Gaol.

The people of this county have long ago concluded that the line of action pursued by the majority of your Board in relation to these schools has been adopted to assist in carrying out a plot, organised by the Roman Catholic clergy in 1874, after my having reported their conduct at the poor-law election, to compel all Roman Catholic children to leave the schools on Lord Rossmore's estate that are under his patronage and management, and thereby enforce a denominational attendance at his Lordship's schools, and at the same time deprive them of State support. As a development of this plan, the district inspector, who is a relative by marriage of Bishop Donnelly, of Monaghan, reported my schools as soon as the priests had so far emptied them of Roman Catholic children as to bring them below the average.

That Report was followed by a letter from your Commissioners, dated 2nd December 1875, in which they refer to the falling-off in Lord Rossmore's schools at Cormeen and Drumcrutten, and intimate that they proposed "taking into consideration the propriety of withdrawing aid at the end of three months from this date."

In my reply, dated 15th January 1876, I explained that the falling-off was owing to "undue interference with these schools by the Roman Catholic clergy in the neighbourhood." I further informed them that the priests occasionally visited these schools; that in one of them (Drumcrutten) there had been an average attendance of 20 Roman Catholics, and that after each visit a number of these Roman Catholic children were withdrawn.

The visits were made by the Rev. Mr. O'Neill, the Rev. Mr. Byrne, and the Rev. Mr. McGlone. After the visit of the Rev. Mr. O'Neill, six Roman Catholic children were withdrawn; after the visit of Mr. Byrne, four were withdrawn; after the visit of Mr. McGlone, two were withdrawn. The Rev. Mr. McGlone subsequently revisited the school, to know if there were still any Roman Catholic child attending it. The Rev. Mr. Byrne turned one child back on the road, when on its way to Drumcrutten School, and sent it to Tappa School. Everywhere the priests continuously visited the homes of the children, and coerced the parents of these children to withdraw them from these schools; and I am in a position to supply the names of these children and their parents, if necessary. The priests caused them to send their children away from schools which were at home at their doors, and to travel to schools under their own management. In my letter, already referred to, I requested the Commissioners to investigate the facts, as such practices (and especially by managers of schools) were contrary to the rules and spirit of the National system.

In their reply, dated the 28th January 1876, they informed me that, "after giving my letter the fullest consideration, they felt they could not interfere in the case."

The question as to why they felt they "could not interfere" I shall not venture to determine; but I am at liberty to assume that an investigation would have proved disastrous to their favourite manager, Mr. O'Neill, the dismissed chaplain of Monaghan Gaol.

It was after these occurrences that I adopted measures to raise the average in my schools, of which the Commissioners themselves had complained, by persuading those children to return whom the priests had coerced into leaving them. And I defy any person to point to a single individual, who, having objected to do so, has in any way suffered in consequence.

Referring still to Rakeeragh School, you say that "for a long series of years it had been attended by children of different religious denominations, and had fulfilled all the functions of a mixed school; and if, for the last few years, it failed to command a mixed attendance, that result is clearly attributable, not to any act on the part of the Commissioners, but to the course you yourself pursued in relation to it and other National Schools on Lord Rossmore's Estate." And you further state that in 1873 it had "an average attendance of 20 Protestants."

It is perfectly true that Rakeeragh School was attended for a long series of years by children of all denominations, and that it "fulfilled all the functions of a mixed school," until the manager, of whom the Commissioners, or a majority of them, are so enamoured, and to whom they have granted a denominational school, acted so disgracefully at the election, of poor-law guardians in 1874. Bear in mind, that was the time when the school was prosperous, and had an average of 20 Protestant children! Not content with a general interference in that election throughout the district, he abused his position, as chaplain of the gaol, in order to carry the election. The Board of Superintendence gave him choice of two proposals, that he should resign, or be dismissed.

You tell me that "in the Report of the Inspector General of Prisons it is recorded that 'he (the chaplain) resigned.'" I tell you that if that be so, the Report of the Inspector General of Prisons is false. Furthermore, I tell you that, as a member of the Board of Superintendence, I have personal knowledge of the fact that he did not resign, and he was consequently superseded.

You say "the Commissioners have reason to believe that his resignation (as they persist in calling it) was not the result of any immoral or illegal act committed by him." What the fine conception of the Commissioners may be of what is "immoral or illegal," and what is not, is not for me to conjecture. But the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, as chaplain of Monaghan Gaol, procured, or attached, the signature of a convicted felon, undergoing punishment in Monaghan



Monaghan Gaol, to a voting-paper, *for a political purpose*, and afterwards foisted that voting paper upon the returning officer. Without attempting to characterise that proceeding, I am content to let the public say whether it was immoral or illegal. The Commissioners say it was neither. It is, however, to the people of this county no cause of surprise that the parents of Protestant children removed them from under the moral influence of such a man; and I certainly was surprised to learn, from your letter, that even *one* has continued to attend the school after the conduct of the chaplain had become a matter of public notoriety.

You furthermore observe: "If you had reported to the Board, immediately after the occurrence, that the manager of the Rakeeragh School had been guilty of illegal conduct, and had been prosecuted according to law, and convicted, and that his conduct (as you now affirm) had been such as ought to render him ineligible, in the opinion of the Commissioners of a State trust, from holding the position of a manager of a school under their control, even for a single day, the Commissioners would have felt it incumbent upon them to give the most careful consideration to such a charge." How exceedingly condescending! Most upright judges! we these Commissioners of National Education, those at least of them who control the minority! and how Mr. Kernan must have chuckled inwardly as he penned this sentence for his amusement! Perhaps you will permit me to inform the Commissioners that all they have referred to was done, save only the "prosecution according to law." Mr. O'Neill was spared that mortification. But the facts having been proved to the satisfaction of the Board of Superintendence, he was superseded in the manner already described.

But you add, by way of recrimination, that, "seeing it is only after three years that you have thought fit to call attention to the matter, and bearing in mind that so recently as June 1876 you declared that Lord Rossmore had no intention to interfere with the managers (a description which includes, amongst others, the manager of Rakeeragh School, i.e., the Rev. Mr. O'Neill), the Commissioners feel bound to decline to take any action in reference to your statement."

This decision is exactly what I expected; and now permit me to assign my reasons for such expectation, as well as for not sooner reporting Mr. O'Neill.

On the 9th of June 1874, the very month referred to in the above extract, I brought under the notice of the National Education Commissioners the conduct of certain National Schoolmasters in this county, who (1) had absented themselves from their schools on the 18th and 19th of March 1874; (2) for having been engaged in filling voting-papers for the election of poor-law guardians; (3) for having signed and witnessed the names of two persons who were dead to the voting-papers representing them. After several months' delay and correspondence, the Commissioners held an investigation, and convicted the teachers of the charges I preferred, and dismissed them. The Rev. John McKenna, Roman Catholic priest, was manager of the schools in which these dismissed teachers had been employed, and at the close of the investigation respecting the conduct of the teachers, I called upon the National Board to institute an inquiry respecting the part taken by the Rev. John McKenna, whom I charged with accompanying those teachers from house to house, canvassing for votes among Lord Rossmore's tenantry, telling the people he had been sent there by God Almighty, and demanding their votes. A correspondence ensued respecting this charge, which commenced in November 1874, and extended over nine months, and fills 48 pages of a closely-printed octavo pamphlet, before I could succeed in inducing the Commissioners to hold an inquiry into the conduct of their manager, and even then I only succeeded by intimating to them my determination to have the matter brought before the House of Commons. When the Commissioners fixed the time for holding the inquiry, Mr. McKenna refused to submit to it, and the Commissioners dismissed him for having "induced James McEntee and Michael Moyan, teachers of the Corcaghan (male) and Three Mile House National Schools, to commit a most serious infraction of the Commissioners' Rule 144, by actively interfering in the election of poor-law guardians, which charge was corroborated by the solemn declarations of several parties."

In closing that correspondence, I complained of the reluctance the Commissioners had evinced to hold the inquiry into a case in which *their own rules* had been violated, and informed them that if they had done their duty in the manner in which they ought to have done it, "other recognized managers of National Schools in the Monaghan Union would have been implicated;" but that, having regard to "the uphill work I had had in the case that had just concluded, I had no desire to reopen the inquiry."

I need scarcely say that in those observations I referred to the Rev. Laurence J. O'Neill, in respect of whom the Commissioners, with a very unbecoming triumph, tell me "they feel bound to decline to take any action in reference to my statement."

I am also free to confess that you are in error in your assumption that the word "management," as used by me, was "a description which included, amongst others, the Rev. L. J. O'Neill." In my letter of the 2nd June 1876 (which, as is your practice, you garble, by quoting only such parts of it as suited your purpose), I said, "It is not his Lordship's intimation to interfere with the management or the teachers of the school."

Here, in your ingenuity, you stopped, although the sentence continued as follows: "But in order that he may be in a position in future to prevent a recurrence of a scandal, which has been made the subject of public criticism in the past, he has determined upon assuming the patronage of all the schools on his own property."

Omitting this important paragraph, you then proceed to quote the paragraph that succeeded it, and, in the very same page, you tell me, with an audacity quite characteristic,

that my "letters on the subject are extremely difficult to reconcile one with another." No doubt, when left to the manipulation of one whose duty it seems to be "to make the worse appear the better reason," the more especially as it is his interest to distort my meaning and to misrepresent my intentions. But I have only one object in view, and what that object is I am content to leave to the representative intelligence of the country.

In saying he would not interfere with the management of the teachers, Lord Rossmore merely intended to convey, that he would continue to have Roman Catholic priests as managers where Roman Catholic priests were already acting as such, and also Roman Catholic teachers where Roman Catholic teachers had been appointed. But it never was his Lordship's intention that men who had abused their position, like the Rev. L. J. O'Neill or the Rev. John McKenna, should be managers of any schools on his property, though he had no objection to any priest whom Dr. Donnelly might nominate, so long as he acted faithfully to his trust. It was with the determined object of having Mr. O'Neill superseded that I so frequently inquired, in my letters and telegrams, whether Rakeeragh School had been struck off the rolls of the Board (albeit you have laboured assiduously to make a very different use of these letters), because I felt convinced that in no other way could that end be accomplished, having regard to the twelve month's experience I had had of the Commissioners, and of their powers of elusion, in the case of the Rev. John McKenna. The manner in which the Commissioners acted in relation to that matter shows how little regard they had for the character of their managers, provided only they be Roman Catholic priests; just as, in the present case, they have shown their partiality for denominational schools, when demanded by one of the same class.

Your attempt to account for the withdrawal of Protestant children from Rakeeragh School, by attributing it to Lord Rossmore, is of a piece with the manner in which, throughout your entire letter, you have mangled and distorted all my communications. Anyone reading your letter would suppose that the memorial referred to by you, and presented to me, had emanated from Protestant; for you say that "it cannot be a matter of surprise, as a result of your proceedings" (that is, my non-compliance with the prayer of the memorial), "that the Protestant attendance at Rakeeragh School, which in 1873 was 20, should have fallen to one."

You pretend to be ignorant of the fact that the memorial emanated entirely from Roman Catholics, and was in the handwriting of a Roman Catholic priest, who could have procured the same signatures to any other document he might please to write. The object of the memorial was to enable children attending mixed schools on Lord Rossmore's estate to go to other schools which were solely under the dominion of Roman Catholic priests, and thus to obtain the sanction of Lord Rossmore to a proceeding the very reverse of what he had been all along contending for, the maintenance of mixed schools. But how his Lordship's refusal to grant the prayer of a petition emanating from Roman Catholics attending his Lordship's schools could affect Protestant children attending Rakeeragh School is utterly incomprehensible.

After Lord Rossmore took up and repaired Rakeeragh School, at an expense of nearly 50 £, he re-opened it, and re-appointed the same Roman Catholic teachers who had been appointed by Mr. O'Neill. In spite of clerical threats and altar denunciations, the Roman Catholic children (as well as Protestant) persisted in attending it, when under his own control. Having thus secured (what Mr. O'Neill failed to accomplish, and what the Commissioners affect to regard) a mixed attendance, I applied to have a vested school on or near the old site, for the benefit of all denominations. I offered also to build a dwelling-house for the teachers (see my letter of the 2nd June 1876). But the Commissioners, disregarding the requirements and the petition of a mixed community, turned most treacherously upon that community, and gave a grant for a vested school for the benefit of Roman Catholics only, and in a position where it was not required.

To refer again to that letter of the 2nd June 1876, already quoted, your Commissioners were therein plainly told that Lord Rossmore purposed assuming the patronage of all the schools on his own property. Rakeeragh School is on his own property. And notice was duly given to Mr. O'Neill, and, as a matter of consequence, to Dr. Donnelly, that he required possession of it. A correspondence was then commenced with Lord Rossmore, by Dr. Donnelly, in reference to that school, the nature of which may not be known to the Commissioners. And, had it not been that the Bishop insulted Lord Rossmore, by doubting his word, and demanding from him other guarantees than his written promise, an amicable arrangement might have been made. In consequence of this treatment his Lordship considered himself freed from the terms of his letters, and at liberty to act as his judgment might dictate. Two of his Lordship's letters have been published, and as they prove to a certainty the excellent spirit that actuated him from first to last, I take the liberty of quoting them here:—

"Rossmore Park, 12 September 1876.

"Lord Rossmore presents his compliments to Dr. Donnelly, and begs to reply to his communication of the 2nd, which Lady Rossmore has handed him, relative to certain schools on the Rossmore Estate. Lord Rossmore is satisfied that it is a duty he owes his country to undertake the patronage of all the schools on his property, and is sorry that, in order to enable him to do so, he finds it necessary to take the legal proceedings referred to. Lord Rossmore takes this opportunity to inform the Bishop that Colonel Lloyd has carried out his (Lord Rossmore's) wishes, so far, in the matter; and also that there is no intention of interfering with the internal management of the schools, so long as they are conducted in strict accordance with the rules of the National Board. Lord Rossmore begs to thank Dr.

"Donnelly

"Donnelly for the kind congratulations conveyed in his letter to Lady Rossmore, and, in conclusion, wishes Dr. Donnelly to understand that in any school where the majority of the pupils is Roman Catholic, a Roman Catholic teacher will of course be appointed, and Lord Rossmore will always be happy to have Dr. Donnelly's opinion and wish as to the election of a manager or teacher.

"To the Right Rev. Dr. Donnelly,  
"Mongahan."

(signed) "Rossmore."

"Rossmore Park, 9 November 1876.

"Lord Rossmore presents his compliments to Dr. Donnelly, and begs to say Lady Rossmore has handed him his letter relative to Rakeeragh and other schools on his property. On consideration, the matter being purely business, Lord Rossmore thinks it better to convey his intentions in writing than by a personal interview, in order that there may be no misunderstanding. As it is Dr. Donnelly's wish, and also Lord Rossmore's, to end all matters in dispute, Lord Rossmore thinks the first step should be to hand over possession of the schools to him, and, on his being appointed patron, he will have pleasure in nominating Dr. Donnelly, or whichever of his clergy he may suggest, as manager. Lord Rossmore will of course reserve to himself all rights and uncontrolled power as patron of the schools on his estate.

"Lord Rossmore thinks that Dr. Donnelly ought to have sufficient confidence in him to be assured that he will not exercise his rights capriciously, but carry out strictly the views expressed in his letter of the 12th September last.

"To the Right Rev. Dr. Donnelly."

(signed) "Rossmore."

Notwithstanding the insult above referred to, Lord Rossmore, in the very first two appointments he made after taking up Rakeeragh School, evinced the sincerity of his motives, and his anxiety to maintain the mixed character of his schools, by reappointing the two Roman Catholic teachers who had formerly occupied the same position under Mr. O'Neill, and, but for the implied threats of excommunication addressed to them, they would have been glad to retain those positions still.

In conclusion, I submit that almost the whole controversy narrows itself into this one question, easily solved by those who have read the correspondence: Who has manifested the greater desire to carry out the system of national education in its true spirit and integrity by maintaining mixed schools? The Commissioners, in their apologetic letter, affect to be ignorant of Lord Rossmore's intentions in this respect; for, referring to my letter of the 7th June, charging them with endeavouring to "thwart Lord Rossmore in his design to have mixed schools on his estate," they reply that "this is the first time any such design on the part of Lord Rossmore has been made known to them." And this statement is made with as much coolness and deliberation as if he believed a single word of it. Throughout the whole of my letters, that declared object on the part of Lord Rossmore was distinctly and constantly kept in view. Without waiting to point out all the instances, I may refer to my letter of the 16th January 1876, and that of the 2nd June 1876, which in the course of your last letter you have more than once garbled and misquoted in the most disingenuous manner, in order to screen the Commissioners. Again, as far back as 1875, in my correspondence regarding the Rev. John McKeena and his escapades in connection with Poor Law elections, I failed not to make known to the Commissioners his Lordship's opinions and desires in reference to the question of mixed schools. In my letter of 3rd June of that year, I concluded as follows: "I trust the Commissioners, having regard to the educational interests of the district, will see the importance of appointing a manager to these schools who will not fail to observe the rules of the Board, in order that the children of all denominations may be educated according to the system of national education."

If the national system of education be a mixed system, then the Commissioners had not even the shadow of a pretext for asserting that, on the 23rd June 1877, they had learned for the first time that Lord Rossmore was anxious to have mixed schools on his estate.

Again, I may refer once more to Lord Rossmore's letters to the Bishop, and ask, Are these the letters of a proprietor who wished to do away with mixed schools on his property? No impartial man will say so. On the other hand, the "windings and crooked courses" of the Commissioners, or a majority of them—which the great philosopher would call "the goings of the serpent"—have been those of men who were clearly and strongly determined on an opposite principle: I mean that of conniving with and assisting a faction whose object is to demolish mixed education, and to control the education of the Roman Catholic people, under a system supported by the State.

I am well fortified in these observations by the fact that Lord Rossmore's is not an exceptional case.

Lord Rossmore is receiving communications every day almost from gentlemen in connection with National Schools throughout the country, complaining of exactly similar treatment at the hands of the Commissioners.

And the communications between them and the Commissioners—notably those of Mr. Burke, of Ballinamallard, in the county Fermanagh, and of Mr. Nesbitt, of Cornanure, in this county, and published in the newspapers this week—afford lamentable proof that the

insidious policy of the majority of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland is more widespread and alarming than many persons who have the true interests of education at heart can possibly imagine.

To John E. Sheridan,  
National Education Office,  
Marlborough-street, Dublin.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) *Jesse Lloyd.*

— No. 114. —

Commissioners of National Education to Colonel Lloyd.

Office of National Education, Dublin,  
4 July 1877.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge the receipt on yesterday of your communication of the 2nd inst., in reply to the letter which I had the honour to address to you by order of the Board on the 23rd ultimo. As in your letter of the 26th ultimo you informed me that you would send me the reply immediately, and as it was important that the Return to the Order of the House of Commons should not be detained longer than was absolutely unavoidable, I took the precaution, when issuing, on the 29th ultimo, to the Commissioners the usual notice of the agenda for their meeting on the 3rd instant, to notify to them that your promised reply would then be submitted for their consideration.

By this means I was enabled to lay your letter in a formal manner before the Board at its meeting yesterday, and I have now the honour to acquaint you that, after full consideration of its contents, the Board made the following Order:—"That the Commissioners find 'nothing in this communication to render it necessary to pursue the correspondence further, 'satisfied as they are that their decisions in the case were in strict accordance with their 'rules and usage, and calculated to promote the educational interests of the district. 'The Commissioners further have to express their regret that Colonel Lloyd should have 'employed in his communication a tone and language offensive to individuals as well as to 'the Commissioners generally, and entirely unsuited to official correspondence affecting 'important public interests.'"

Colonel Lloyd, J.P.,  
Monaghan.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *John E. Sheridan,*  
Secretary.

— No. 115. —

Mr. John Lentaigue to the Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Office of Inspectors General of Prisons,  
Dublin Castle, 9 July 1877.

Sir,

HAVING been present at a meeting of the Commissioners of National Education when a letter was read from Colonel Lloyd, of Monaghan, in which he stated that a paragraph in my Report on Monaghan Gaol for the year 1874 was false;

As that letter of Colonel Lloyd's has been ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, on the motion of Sir John Leslie, M.P., I feel it my duty, as the Inspector General of Prisons, by whom that Report was made, to request that you will kindly permit the annexed official memorandum, stating the facts of the case, to be likewise printed and annexed to Colonel Lloyd's letter.

I have, &c.,  
(signed) *John Lentaigue,*

The Right Hon. the Chief Secretary,  
&c. &c. &c.

Inspector General of Prisons.

Enclosure in No. 115.

# MEMORANDUM.

COLONEL LLOYD, of Monaghan, in his letter to the Commissioners of National Education of the 2nd July 1877 states, "you tell me that in the Report of the Inspector General of Prisons it is recorded that he (the Roman Catholic Chaplain of Monaghan Gaol) resigned. "I tell you that if that be so, the Report of the Inspector General of Prisons is false."

I subjoin

I subjoin the portion of the Report to which Colonel Lloyd refers, and have marked in *italics* the passage which he stigmatises as false.\*

That statement was received in the office of the Inspector General of Prisons on the 2nd September 1874, with other statistics from the local Inspector of Monaghan Gaol, and was thence transmitted to the Government printers, when it was, without alteration, set up in type in his office, and published verbatim in the Annual Report of the Inspector General of Prisons on Monaghan Gaol for that year.

The original of the document which was in duplicate, is still among the records of Monaghan Gaol, and is in the handwriting of the prison clerk.

The 30th section of the Act 19 & 20 Vict. c. 68, enacts, "The local inspector shall from time to time report to the Inspector General of Prisons when any officer of any prison or bridewell under his inspection has died, or has been removed or dismissed, or has resigned."

The section further directs the local inspector to report quarterly. In the execution of his duty under that section, the local inspector of Monaghan Gaol reported to the Inspector General of Prisons, as follows:—

"Gentlemen,

"Monaghan Gaol, 17 July 1874.

"I HAVE to report for your information the resignation of the Roman Catholic Chaplain, the Reverend L. J. O'Neill, upon the 6th instant.

"I am, &c.

(signed) "Thomas A. Young,  
"Local Inspector."

"The Inspector General of Prisons,  
"Dublin Castle."

Again, in his quarterly report on the prison under the same section of the Act, the local inspector, on the 7th October 1874 reports, "The Roman Catholic Chaplain resigned, and another was appointed in his place."

I have further to observe that on the 16th February 1875, Colonel Lloyd being then, as now, a member of the Board of Superintendence of Monaghan Gaol, was, as well as every other member of the Board, and the going judges of assize, furnished with a copy of the Report which he now impugns, and neither he nor any other member of the Board called it in question until he has done so now.

I submit that the official documents above referred to were quite sufficient evidence for me as Inspector General when writing my report on Monaghan Gaol in 1874, and the attempt of Colonel Lloyd to make me responsible for the statements of officers of the Board, of which he is an active and influential member, and to stigmatise in such strong and

#### \* OFFICERS AND SALARIES.

NON-RESIDENT.			RESIDENT.		
	£.	s. d.		£.	s. d.
Thomas A. Young, Esq., Local Inspector.	92	0 2	John Temple, Governor - -	150	- -
A. K. Young, Esq., Medical Attendant	74	- -	Robert Brown, 1st Turnkey - -	50	- -
The Ven. C. M. Stock, Protestant Chaplain.	30	- -	William Somerville, 2nd Turnkey - -	41	10 -
Rev. J. A. Allison, Presbyterian Chaplain.	30	- -	Robert Farley, 3rd Turnkey - -	35	- -
Rev. Richard Owens, Roman Catholic Chaplain.	30	- -	Alexander Linton, 4th Turnkey - -	35	- -
			John Adams, 5th Turnkey - -	35	- -
			William Boyd, 6th Turnkey - -	35	- -
			James Casiday, Night Watchman - -	31	- -
			Mary Anne Somers, Matron - -	35	- -
			Eleanor Nicholl, Assistant - -	35	- -

VACANCIES in the Staff since last inspection, how caused, and how filled up.

The Assistant Matron resigned, and one appointed in her place. The Roman Catholic Chaplain resigned, and one appointed in his place. The Presbyterian Chaplain died, and one appointed in his place.

#### Years Paid by OFFICERS.

	From 1 January to 31 December 1873.	From 1 January 1874, to Day of Inspection.
Number of times the Board of Superintendence met and discharged business - - - - -	11	9
Local Inspector to gaol - - - - -	100	94
Local Inspector to each bridewell - - - - -	4	2
Chaplain, Protestant Episcopal Church - - - - -	156	92
Chaplain, Presbyterian - - - - -	102	83
Chaplain, Roman Catholic - - - - -	105	80
Surgeon - - - - -	163	76

and unfounded terms my official Report, is one which, having regard to my public position, I ought not to permit to remain on a Parliamentary Paper unanswered.

I annex a minute of the Board of Superintendence of Monaghan Gaol of the 6th July 1874, in reference to which I received the information from the local inspector of the gaol stating that Mr. O'Neill had resigned on that day.

The following is a copy of minute:—

"6 July 1874.

"From further consideration of the charge made against the Rev. L. J. O'Neill, Roman Catholic Chaplain, of having procured the signature of Phillip M'Entee, of Knockaturly, a prisoner then under sentence in the gaol, to a voting paper for the election of poor law guardians; and the Rev. L. J. O'Neill having, as entered in the minutes of last special meeting of the 29th June, stated that he did so procure the signature of the prisoner, the Board to-day has called on the Rev. L. J. O'Neill to resign his appointment as chaplain.

"A meeting to be called this day week, the 13th, for the purpose of appointing a chaplain, of which the local inspector is to give notice to the Rev. Dr. Donnelly, the Roman Catholic Bishop.

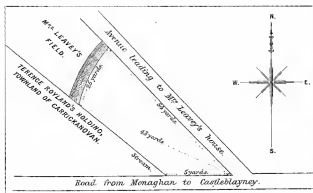
(signed) "James Hamilton,  
"Thomas Coote,  
"Jesse Lloyd,  
"Edward Richardson."

Mr. O'Neill, however, does not appear to have ever replied to this minute in any way; but the Board subsequently proceeded to appoint a successor to him in his office.

(signed) John Lestaigne,  
Inspector General.

The Right Hon. the Chief Secretary,  
&c. &c. &c.

MAP OF THE  
SCHOOL GROUND TO BE DEMISED.



# ROUGH SKETCH OF TEMPORARY SCHOOL.

100' 0" x 4'

Simple 4' x 4' Plate 10' x 4'

Inside 10' x 10'

Roofing 1" x 4'

1 longitudinal beam in center of floor 10' x 4'

1 Angle brace on each side, 4 to open in front the foundation.

1 10' x 10' on each side.

1 10' x 10' on each side.

1 10' x 10' on each side.

1 10' x 10' on each side.

1 10' x 10' on each side.



Scale 1/2" = 1'